

**BEFORE**

**THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Docket No. 2020-202-E**

In the Matter of ) Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC ) for authorization under South Carolina Code ) Ann. § 58-27-1720 to Issue and Sell Securities )	) ) ) )	REPORT OF ISSUE AND SALE OF SECURITIES
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**1. Securities Issued and Sold**

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (the “Company”) hereby reports that on April 1, 2021, pursuant to the authority granted by the Commission under Order No. 2021-75 in this docket, the Company issued and sold \$550,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031 (the “2031 Bonds”), and an additional \$450,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051 (the “2051 Bonds and collectively, the “Bonds”), pursuant to an underwriting agreement (the “Underwriting Agreement”), dated as of March 29, 2021, with BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, and Truist Securities, Inc., as representatives of the several underwriters named therein (the “Underwriters”). The Bonds were sold to the Underwriters at a discount to their principal amount. The Bonds were issued under the First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1927, as amended by the One-Hundred and Fifth Supplemental Indenture. dated as of April 1, 2021 between the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee ( the “Supplemental Indenture”). The Supplemental Indenture, the Underwriting Agreement and the prospectus describing the Bonds contain further details on the Bonds. Such documents are attached hereto as exhibits and are incorporated by reference to this description of the Bonds.

Following is an itemized statement of expenses, other than underwriting compensation, incurred by the Company in effecting the offering of the Bonds. Certain of such expenses are estimates.

Accounting Fees	\$	60,000
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$	65,000
Printing Costs	\$	22,500
Rating Agency Fees	\$	615,000
SEC Registration Fee	\$	109,100
Trustee Fees	\$	7,000
Blue Sky Fees	\$	5,000
Miscellaneous	\$	5,000
TOTAL	\$	888,600

## **2. Remaining Authority under Commission Order**

The securities reported herein represent a total of \$1,000,000,000 of the \$4,000,000,000 initially authorized by the Commission in its Order in this Docket. After issuance of such securities, a balance of \$3,000,000,000 remained authorized under this Docket.

## **3. Exhibits**

Pursuant to the Commission's Order, there are attached hereto and made a part of this Report the following exhibits:

1. Prospectus Supplement dated March 29, 2021, describing the offering of the Bonds.
2. Underwriting Agreement dated March 29, 2021, between the Company and the Underwriters relating to the offering of the Bonds.
3. One-Hundred and Fifth Supplemental Indenture to First and Refunding Mortgage.

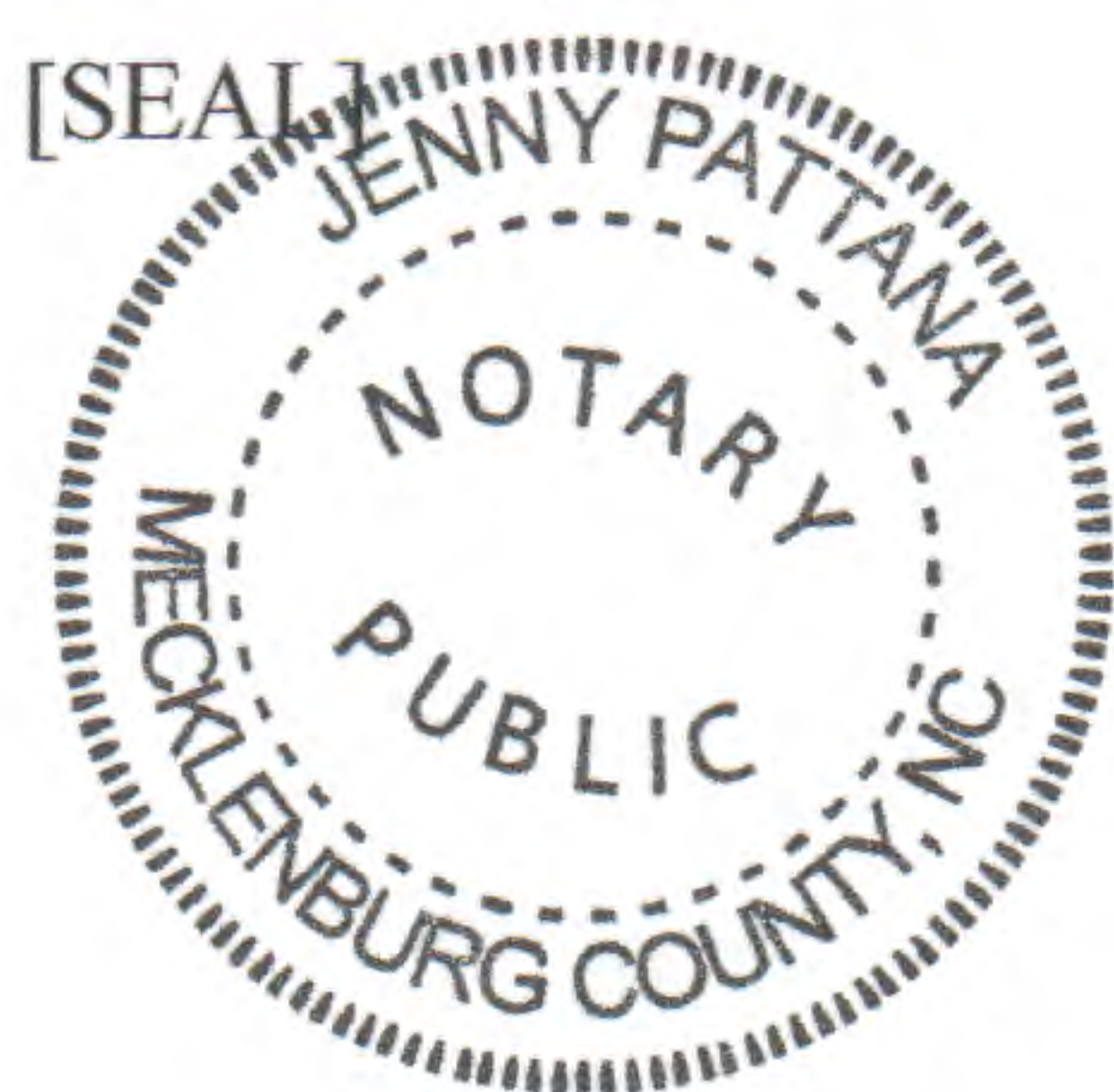
Respectfully submitted this 27 day of April, 2021.

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

By: Robert J. Furr  
Assistant Secretary

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 27 day of April, 2021.

Jenny Pattana  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: 06/08/2025



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)  
Registration No. 333-233896-06

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each class of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered	Proposed maximum offering price per unit	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee <sup>(1)</sup>
First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031	\$ 550,000,000	99.885%	\$549,367,500	\$59,936
First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051	\$ 450,000,000	99.627%	\$448,321,500	\$48,912
Total First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds	\$1,000,000,000		\$997,689,000	\$108,848

- (1) The filing fee, calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, has been transmitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with the securities offered by means of this prospectus supplement.



PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT  
(To Prospectus dated September 23, 2019)

\$1,000,000,000


**\$550,000,000 FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS, 2.55% SERIES DUE 2031**  
**\$450,000,000 FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS, 3.45% SERIES DUE 2051**

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC is offering \$1,000,000,000 aggregate principal amount of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds in two series. We are offering \$550,000,000 aggregate principal amount of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031 (the “2031 Mortgage Bonds”) and \$450,000,000 aggregate principal amount of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051 (the “2051 Mortgage Bonds”) and, together with the 2031 Mortgage Bonds, the “Mortgage Bonds”). The per annum interest rate on the 2031 Mortgage Bonds will be 2.55%. The per annum interest rate on the 2051 Mortgage Bonds will be 3.45%. We will pay interest on the Mortgage Bonds semi-annually in arrears on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning on October 15, 2021. The 2031 Mortgage Bonds will mature as to principal on April 15, 2031. The 2051 Mortgage Bonds will mature as to principal on April 15, 2051. The Mortgage Bonds are secured by a continuing lien on certain of our properties and franchises and rank equally with all of our other First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds from time to time outstanding. The lien of our mortgage is discussed under “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Security” on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus.

We may redeem the Mortgage Bonds of either series at our option at any time and from time to time, in whole or in part, as described in this prospectus supplement under the caption “Description of the Mortgage Bonds—Optional Redemption.” The Mortgage Bonds will also be redeemable through the operation of the Replacement Fund (as described in the accompanying prospectus under “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Replacement Fund”) or upon application of moneys arising from a taking of any of the underlying mortgaged property by eminent domain or similar action at any time or from time to time at the special redemption price of 100% of their principal amount, together with accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. We have agreed not to apply any cash deposited with the bond trustee pursuant to the Replacement Fund to the redemption of the Mortgage Bonds so long as any of the First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds presently outstanding and entitled to the benefit of the Replacement Fund remain outstanding. See “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Replacement Fund” in the accompanying prospectus. The Mortgage Bonds will not be entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.

Each series of the Mortgage Bonds is a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to list the Mortgage Bonds on any securities exchange or include them in any automated quotation system. Please read the information provided under the caption “Description of the Mortgage Bonds” in this prospectus supplement and “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds” in the accompanying prospectus for a more detailed description of the Mortgage Bonds.

**Investing in the Mortgage Bonds involves risks. See “Risk Factors” on page S-8 of this prospectus supplement.**

	Price to the Public(1)	Underwriting Discount(2)	Proceeds to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC Before Expenses
Per 2031 Mortgage Bond	99.885%	0.650%	99.235%
Total 2031 Mortgage Bonds	\$549,367,500	\$3,575,000	\$545,792,500
Per 2051 Mortgage Bond	99.627%	0.875%	98.752%
Total 2051 Mortgage Bonds	\$448,321,500	\$3,937,500	\$444,384,000

- (1) Plus accrued interest from and including April 1, 2021, if settlement occurs after that date.
- (2) The underwriters have agreed to make a payment to us in an amount equal to \$1,662,500, including in respect of expenses incurred by us in connection with the offerings. See “Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest).”

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

We expect the Mortgage Bonds to be ready for delivery only in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company for the accounts of its participants, including Clearstream Banking, S.A. and Euroclear Bank SA/NV, on or about April 1, 2021.

## Joint Book-Running Managers

**BNP PARIBAS    BofA Securities    Credit Suisse    J.P. Morgan    Morgan Stanley    Truist Securities**

## Co-Managers

**Loop Capital Markets  
CastleOak Securities, L.P.**

**Regions Securities LLC  
Drexel Hamilton**

**Santander  
Ramirez & Co., Inc.**

The date of this prospectus supplement is March 29, 2021.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus authorized by us. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus authorized by us is accurate as of any date other than the date of the document containing the information or such other date as may be specified therein. Our business, financial condition, liquidity, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those respective dates.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Prospectus Supplement

	<u>Page</u>
<a href="#">About This Prospectus Supplement</a>	<a href="#">S-1</a>
<a href="#">Prospectus Supplement Summary</a>	<a href="#">S-3</a>
<a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	<a href="#">S-8</a>
<a href="#">Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information</a>	<a href="#">S-9</a>
<a href="#">Use of Proceeds</a>	<a href="#">S-11</a>
<a href="#">Description of the Mortgage Bonds</a>	<a href="#">S-12</a>
<a href="#">Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations for Non-U.S. Holders</a>	<a href="#">S-17</a>
<a href="#">Book-Entry System</a>	<a href="#">S-20</a>
<a href="#">Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)</a>	<a href="#">S-24</a>
<a href="#">Legal Matters</a>	<a href="#">S-29</a>
<a href="#">Where You Can Find More Information</a>	<a href="#">S-30</a>

### Prospectus

	<u>Page</u>
<a href="#">References to Additional Information</a>	<a href="#">i</a>
<a href="#">About This Prospectus</a>	<a href="#">i</a>
<a href="#">Forward-Looking Statements</a>	<a href="#">ii</a>
<a href="#">The Company</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Use of Proceeds</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Description of Senior Notes</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">Description of Subordinated Notes</a>	<a href="#">12</a>
<a href="#">Global Securities</a>	<a href="#">18</a>
<a href="#">Plan of Distribution</a>	<a href="#">19</a>
<a href="#">Experts</a>	<a href="#">20</a>
<a href="#">Validity of the Securities</a>	<a href="#">20</a>
<a href="#">Where You Can Find More Information</a>	<a href="#">20</a>

## ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of these offerings. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which does not apply to these offerings.

If the description of the offerings varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement.

It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information contained in the documents to which we have referred you in “Where You Can Find More Information” in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

Unless we have indicated otherwise, or the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to “Duke Energy Carolinas,” “the Company,” “we,” “us” and “our” or similar terms are to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and its subsidiaries. References in this prospectus supplement to “Bonds” refers to all First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds from time to time issued under the Mortgage (as defined under “Description of the Mortgage Bonds”), including the Mortgage Bonds.

### Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

None of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any related free writing prospectus is a prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Regulation (as defined below). This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any related free writing prospectus have been prepared on the basis that any offer of the Mortgage Bonds in any Member State of the European Economic Area (the “EEA”) will only be made to a legal entity which is a qualified investor under the Prospectus Regulation (“Qualified Investors”). Accordingly, any person making or intending to make an offer in that Member State of Mortgage Bonds which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any related free writing prospectus may only do so with respect to Qualified Investors. Neither Duke Energy Carolinas nor the underwriters have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of Mortgage Bonds other than to Qualified Investors. The expression “Prospectus Regulation” means Regulation (EU) 2017/1129.

**Prohibition of Sales to EEA Retail Investors**—The Mortgage Bonds are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the EEA. For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU, as amended (“MiFID II”); or (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2016/97 (the “Insurance Distribution Directive”), where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation. Consequently no key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014, as amended (the “PRIIPs Regulation”) for offering or selling the Mortgage Bonds or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the EEA has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the Mortgage Bonds or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the EEA may be unlawful under the PRIIPs Regulation.

### Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

**Prohibition of Sales to United Kingdom Retail Investors**—The Mortgage Bonds are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the United Kingdom. For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client, as defined in point (8) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 2017/565 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, as amended by the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020 (“EUWA”); or (ii) a customer within the meaning of the provisions of the United Kingdom’s Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended (the “FSMA”) and any rules or regulations made under the FSMA to implement the Insurance Distribution Directive, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client, as defined in point (8) of Article 2(1) of Regulation

(EU) No 600/2014 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA; or (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in Article 2 of Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA. Consequently no key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA (the “UK PRIIPs Regulation”) for offering or selling the Mortgage Bonds or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the United Kingdom has been prepared and therefore offering or selling the Mortgage Bonds or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the United Kingdom may be unlawful under the UK PRIIPs Regulation.

The communication of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any related free writing prospectus, and any other document or materials relating to the issue of the Mortgage Bonds offered hereby is not being made, and such documents and/or materials have not been approved, by an authorized person for the purposes of section 21 of the FSMA. Accordingly, such documents and/or materials are not being distributed to, and must not be passed on to, the general public in the United Kingdom. The communication of such documents and/or materials as a financial promotion is only being made to those persons in the United Kingdom who have professional experience in matters relating to investments and who fall within the definition of investment professionals (as defined in Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the “Financial Promotion Order”)), or who fall within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Financial Promotion Order, or who are any other persons to whom it may otherwise lawfully be made under the Financial Promotion Order (all such persons together being referred to as “relevant persons”). In the United Kingdom, the Mortgage Bonds offered hereby are only available to, and any investment or investment activity to which this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any related free writing prospectus relates will be engaged in only with, relevant persons. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any related free writing prospectus or any of their contents.



**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY**

*The following summary is qualified in its entirety by, and should be read together with, the more detailed information that is included elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as well as the information that is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" in this prospectus supplement for information about how you can obtain the information that is incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Investing in the Mortgage Bonds involves risks. See "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement.*

**Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC**

Duke Energy Carolinas, a North Carolina limited liability company and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation, is a regulated public utility primarily engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in portions of North Carolina and South Carolina. Our service area covers approximately 24,000 square miles and supplies electric service to approximately 2.7 million residential, commercial and industrial customers. As of December 31, 2020, our asset portfolio included approximately 20,280 megawatts of owned generation capacity, 107,000 miles of distribution lines and 13,100 miles of transmission lines.

The address of our principal executive offices is 526 South Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202. Our telephone number is (704) 382-3853.

The foregoing information about Duke Energy Carolinas is only a general summary and is not intended to be comprehensive. For additional information about Duke Energy Carolinas, you should refer to the information described under the caption "Where You Can Find More Information" in this prospectus supplement.

<b>The Offerings</b>	
<b>Issuer</b>	Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
<b>Securities Offered</b>	We are offering \$550,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds and \$450,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds.
<b>Maturity Dates</b>	The 2031 Mortgage Bonds will mature on April 15, 2031. The 2051 Mortgage Bonds will mature on April 15, 2051.
<b>Interest Rates</b>	The per annum interest rate on the 2031 Mortgage Bonds will be 2.55%. The per annum interest rate on the 2051 Mortgage Bonds will be 3.45%.
<b>Interest Payment Dates</b>	Interest on the Mortgage Bonds will be payable semi-annually in arrears on April 15 and October 15 of each year, beginning on October 15, 2021.
<b>Ranking</b>	The Mortgage Bonds are two new series of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds and will rank equally with all our other First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds from time to time outstanding. See “Description of the Mortgage Bonds—Security and Ranking.” At December 31, 2020, we had outstanding approximately \$10.0 billion in aggregate principal amount of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, which will rank equally with the Mortgage Bonds.
<b>Further Issuance</b>	Subject to the limits contained in the Mortgage that are described in the accompanying prospectus under “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Issuance of Additional Bonds,” we may, without the consent of the holders of a series of Bonds, reopen such series of Bonds (including the Mortgage Bonds) and issue additional Bonds of such series under the Mortgage in addition to the Bonds of such series originally authorized. We may issue Bonds having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity and other terms (except for the price to the public, the issue date, and, if applicable, the initial interest accrual date and the first interest payment date) as the applicable Mortgage Bonds being offered hereby; provided, however, that such additional Bonds must be fungible with such Mortgage Bonds for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and any such additional Bonds, together with such Mortgage Bonds, will be taken to constitute the same series of Bonds under the Mortgage.
<b>Collateral</b>	The Mortgage Bonds will be secured by a lien that covers substantially all of our properties, real, personal and mixed, and our franchises, including properties acquired after the date of the Mortgage, as supplemented, governing the Mortgage Bonds.
<b>Certain Covenants</b>	The Mortgage, which is described in this prospectus supplement under the caption “Description of the Mortgage Bonds,” contains certain covenants that, among other things, limit our ability and the ability of certain of our subsidiaries to create liens on our assets. See “Description of the Mortgage Bonds” in this prospectus supplement and “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds” in the accompanying prospectus.
<b>Optional Redemption</b>	At any time before January 15, 2031 (which is the date that is three months prior to the maturity date of the 2031 Mortgage

Bonds (the “2031 Par Call Date”)), we will have the right to redeem the 2031 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed that would be due if the 2031 Mortgage Bonds matured on the 2031 Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date), discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate (as defined herein) plus 15 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date. At any time on or after the 2031 Par Call Date, we will have the right to redeem the 2031 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date. See “Description of the Mortgage Bonds—Optional Redemption.”

At any time before October 15, 2050 (which is the date that is six months prior to the maturity date of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds (the “2051 Par Call Date”)), we will have the right to redeem the 2051 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed that would be due if the 2051 Mortgage Bonds matured on the 2051 Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date), discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 20 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date. At any time on or after the 2051 Par Call Date, we will have the right to redeem the 2051 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date. See “Description of the Mortgage Bonds—Optional Redemption.”

The Mortgage Bonds of either series will also be redeemable through the operation of the Replacement Fund or upon application of moneys arising from a taking of any of the underlying mortgaged property by eminent domain or similar action at any time or from time to time at the special redemption price of 100% of their principal amount, together with accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. We have agreed not to apply any cash deposited with the Bond Trustee (as defined herein) pursuant to the Replacement Fund to

	<p>the redemption of the Mortgage Bonds so long as any of the First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds presently outstanding and entitled to the benefit of the Replacement Fund remain outstanding. See “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Replacement Fund” in the accompanying prospectus.</p>
<b>No Sinking Fund</b>	<p>The Mortgage Bonds will not be entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.</p>
<b>Basis for Issuance of Additional Bonds</b>	<p>We will issue the Mortgage Bonds upon the basis of previously authenticated and delivered Bonds that have been retired. Under the terms of the Mortgage, assuming that the applicable net earnings requirements are satisfied under the Mortgage, (i) as of March 31, 2020, we could issue additional Bonds in amounts equal to approximately \$12.2 billion based upon the net amount of additional property (electric) certified to the Bond Trustee after February 18, 1949 and (ii) as of December 31, 2020, we could issue additional Bonds in amounts equal to approximately \$1.4 billion based upon the amount of previously authenticated and delivered Bonds that have been retired (approximately \$400 million after giving effect to the offerings).</p>
<b>Use of Proceeds</b>	<p>The aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds, after deducting the respective underwriting discounts and related offering expenses and giving effect to the underwriters’ payment to us, will be approximately \$991 million. We intend to use the aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds (i) to repay at maturity \$500 million aggregate principal amount of our First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.90% Series due June 15, 2021 (the “2021 Bonds”), (ii) to pay down intercompany short-term debt under our money-pool borrowing arrangement with Duke Energy Corporation, and (iii) for general company purposes. At February 28, 2021, we had approximately \$582 million of outstanding short-term money-pool borrowings at an annual interest rate of 0.20%. A portion of the aggregate net proceeds may be invested temporarily in short-term interest-bearing accounts, securities or similar investments until they are used for their intended purposes. See “Use of Proceeds.”</p> <p>We expect that the sales of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds and the 2051 Mortgage Bonds will take place concurrently. However, the sales of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds and the 2051 Mortgage Bonds are not conditioned upon each other, and we may consummate the sale of one series and not the other, or consummate the sales at different times.</p>
<b>Conflicts of Interest</b>	<p>Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may own some of the 2021 Bonds described above, which are expected to be repaid with a portion of the aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds. See “Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)—Conflicts of Interest.”</p>
<b>Book-Entry</b>	<p>Each series of the Mortgage Bonds will be represented by one or more global securities registered in the name of and deposited with or on behalf of The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) or its nominee. Beneficial interests in each series of the Mortgage</p>

Bonds will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Investors may elect to hold interests in the global securities through either DTC in the United States or Clearstream Banking, S.A. ("Clearstream") or Euroclear Bank SA/NV, as operator of the Euroclear System (the "Euroclear System") in Europe if they are participants in those systems, or indirectly through organizations which are participants in those systems. This means that you will not receive a certificate for your Mortgage Bonds and Mortgage Bonds will not be registered in your name, except under certain limited circumstances described under the caption "Book-Entry System."

**Bond Trustee**

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A.



## RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risk factors in our [Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020](#), which has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) and is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as well as all of the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before making an investment decision.

### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, and the information incorporated by reference herein and therein, include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements are based on management's beliefs and assumptions and can often be identified by terms and phrases that include "anticipate," "believe," "intend," "estimate," "expect," "continue," "should," "could," "may," "plan," "project," "predict," "will," "potential," "forecast," "target," "guidance," "outlook," or other similar terminology. Various factors may cause actual results to be materially different than the suggested outcomes within forward-looking statements; accordingly, there is no assurance that such results will be realized. These factors include, but are not limited to:

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- State and federal legislative and regulatory initiatives, including costs of compliance with existing and future environmental requirements, including those related to climate change, as well as rulings that affect cost and investment recovery or have an impact on rate structures or market prices;
- The extent and timing of costs and liabilities to comply with federal and state laws, regulations and legal requirements related to coal ash remediation, including amounts for required closure of certain ash impoundments, are uncertain and difficult to estimate;
- The ability to recover eligible costs, including amounts associated with coal ash impoundment retirement obligations and costs related to significant weather events, and to earn an adequate return on investment through rate case proceedings and the regulatory process;
- The costs of decommissioning nuclear facilities could prove to be more extensive than amounts estimated and all costs may not be fully recoverable through the regulatory process;
- Costs and effects of legal and administrative proceedings, settlements, investigations and claims;
- Industrial, commercial and residential growth or decline in our service territories or customer bases resulting from sustained downturns of the economy and the economic health of our service territories or variations in customer usage patterns, including energy efficiency efforts and use of alternative energy sources, such as self-generation and distributed generation technologies;
- Federal and state regulations, laws and other efforts designed to promote and expand the use of energy efficiency measures and distributed generation technologies, such as private solar and battery storage, in our service territories could result in customers leaving the electric distribution system, excess generation resources as well as stranded costs;
- Advancements in technology;
- Additional competition in electric markets and continued industry consolidation;
- The influence of weather and other natural phenomena on our operations, including the economic, operational and other effects of severe storms, hurricanes, droughts, earthquakes and tornadoes, including extreme weather associated with climate change;
- Changing customer expectations and demands including heightened emphasis on environmental, social and governance concerns;
- The ability to successfully operate electric generating facilities and deliver electricity to customers including direct or indirect effects to us resulting from an incident that affects the United States electric grid or generating resources;
- The impact on our facilities and business from a terrorist attack, cybersecurity threats, data security breaches, operational accidents, information technology failures or other catastrophic events, such as fires, explosions, pandemic health events or other similar occurrences;
- The inherent risks associated with the operation of nuclear facilities, including environmental, health, safety, regulatory and financial risks, including the financial stability of third-party service providers;

- The timing and extent of changes in commodity prices and interest rates and the ability to recover such costs through the regulatory process, where appropriate, and their impact on liquidity positions and the value of underlying assets;
- The results of financing efforts, including the ability to obtain financing on favorable terms, which can be affected by various factors, including credit ratings, interest rate fluctuations, compliance with debt covenants and conditions and general market and economic conditions;
- Our credit ratings may be different from what is expected;
- Declines in the market prices of equity and fixed-income securities and resultant cash funding requirements for defined benefit pension plans, other post-retirement benefit plans and nuclear decommissioning trust funds;
- Construction and development risks associated with the completion of our capital investment projects, including risks related to financing, obtaining and complying with terms of permits, meeting construction budgets and schedules, and satisfying operating and environmental performance standards, as well as the ability to recover costs from customers in a timely manner, or at all;
- Changes in rules for regional transmission organizations, including changes in rate designs and new and evolving capacity markets, and risks related to obligations created by the default of other participants;
- The ability to control operation and maintenance costs;
- The level of creditworthiness of counterparties to transactions;
- The ability to obtain adequate insurance at acceptable costs;
- Employee workforce factors, including the potential inability to attract and retain key personnel;
- The effect of accounting pronouncements issued periodically by accounting standard-setting bodies;
- The impact of United States tax legislation to our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows and our credit ratings; and
- The ability to implement our business strategy, including enhancing existing technology systems.

Additional risks and uncertainties are identified and discussed in our reports filed with the SEC and available at the SEC's website. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the events described in the forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus might not occur or might occur to a different extent or at a different time than described. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made and we expressly disclaim an obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## USE OF PROCEEDS

The aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds, after deducting the respective underwriting discounts and related offering expenses and giving effect to the underwriters' payment to us, will be approximately \$991 million. We intend to use the aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds (i) to repay at maturity \$500 million aggregate principal amount of our First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.90% Series due June 15, 2021 (the "2021 Bonds"), (ii) to pay down intercompany short-term debt under our money-pool borrowing arrangement with Duke Energy Corporation, and (iii) for general company purposes. At February 28, 2021, we had approximately \$582 million of outstanding short-term money-pool borrowings at an annual interest rate of 0.20%. A portion of the aggregate net proceeds may be invested temporarily in short-term interest-bearing accounts, securities or similar investments until they are used for their intended purposes.

Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates may own some of the 2021 Bonds described above, which are expected to be repaid with a portion of the aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds. See "Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)—Conflicts of Interest."

We expect that the sales of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds and the 2051 Mortgage Bonds will take place concurrently. However, the sales of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds and the 2051 Mortgage Bonds are not conditioned upon each other, and we may consummate the sale of one series and not the other, or consummate the sales at different times.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGE BONDS

We will issue the Mortgage Bonds as two new series of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds under our First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1927 (the “First and Refunding Mortgage”) to The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee (the “Bond Trustee”). The First and Refunding Mortgage is supplemented by supplemental indentures, including by the One-hundred and fifth Supplemental Indenture to be dated as of April 1, 2021 (the “Supplemental Indenture”). In the following discussion, we will refer to the First and Refunding Mortgage and all supplemental indentures to the First and Refunding Mortgage together as the “Mortgage.” The term “Bonds” refers to all mortgage bonds from time to time issued under the Mortgage, including the Mortgage Bonds.

Please read the following information concerning the Mortgage Bonds in conjunction with the statements under “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds” in the accompanying prospectus, which the following information supplements and, in the event of any inconsistencies, supersedes. Capitalized terms not defined in this prospectus supplement are used as defined in the Mortgage or as otherwise provided in the accompanying prospectus.

### General

The Mortgage Bonds will be issued as two new series of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds under the Mortgage. The 2031 Mortgage Bonds being offered hereby will be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$550,000,000 and will mature on April 15, 2031. The 2051 Mortgage Bonds being offered hereby will be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$450,000,000 and will mature on April 15, 2051.

The amount of Bonds that we may issue under the Mortgage is unlimited, subject to the limits contained in the Mortgage that are described below under “—Basis for Issuance of the Mortgage Bonds” and described in the accompanying prospectus under “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Issuance of Additional Bonds.” Subject to the limits contained in the Mortgage that are described in the accompanying prospectus under “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Issuance of Additional Bonds,” we may, without the consent of the holders of a series of Bonds, reopen such series of Bonds (including the Mortgage Bonds) and issue additional Bonds of such series under the Mortgage in addition to the Bonds of such series originally authorized. We may issue Bonds having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity and other terms (except for the price to the public, the issue date, and, if applicable, the initial interest accrual date and the first interest payment date) as the applicable Mortgage Bonds being offered hereby; provided, however, that such additional Bonds must be fungible with such Mortgage Bonds for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and any such additional Bonds, together with such Mortgage Bonds, will be taken to constitute the same series of Bonds under the Mortgage.

We will issue the Mortgage Bonds only in fully registered form without coupons and there will be no service charge for any transfers and exchanges of the Mortgage Bonds. We may, however, require payment to cover any stamp tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with any transfer or exchange. Transfers and exchanges of the Mortgage Bonds may be made at The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286 or at any other office maintained by us for such purpose.

The Mortgage Bonds will be issuable in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

### Interest

Interest on the 2031 Mortgage Bonds will accrue at the rate of 2.55% per annum from April 1, 2021 or from the most recent interest payment date to which interest on the 2031 Mortgage Bonds has been paid or provided for. Interest on the 2051 Mortgage Bonds will accrue at the rate of 3.45% per annum from April 1, 2021 or from the most recent interest payment date to which interest on the 2051 Mortgage Bonds has been paid or provided for. We will make each interest payment on the Mortgage Bonds semi-annually in arrears on April 15 and October 15 of each year, commencing on October 15, 2021, to each holder of record at the close of business on the record date for the applicable interest payment date, which will be the close of business on (i) the business day immediately preceding such interest payment date so long as all of the



Mortgage Bonds of a series remain in book-entry only form or (ii) the fifteenth calendar day immediately preceding such interest payment date if any of the Mortgage Bonds of a series do not remain in book-entry only form, in each case, until the relevant principal amount has been paid or made available for payment. Interest on the Mortgage Bonds will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

### Optional Redemption

At any time before January 15, 2031 (which is the date that is three months prior to the maturity date of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds (the "2031 Par Call Date")), we will have the right to redeem the 2031 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed that would be due if the 2031 Mortgage Bonds matured on the 2031 Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date), discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate (as defined herein) plus 15 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date.

At any time on or after the 2031 Par Call Date, we will have the right to redeem the 2031 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date.

At any time before October 15, 2050 (which is the date that is six months prior to the maturity date of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds (the "2051 Par Call Date")), we will have the right to redeem the 2051 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed that would be due if the 2051 Mortgage Bonds matured on the 2051 Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date), discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 20 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date.

At any time on or after the 2051 Par Call Date, we will have the right to redeem the 2051 Mortgage Bonds, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds being redeemed to, but excluding, such redemption date.

For purposes of these redemption provisions, the following terms have the following meanings:

"*Comparable Treasury Issue*" means the United States Treasury security selected by the Quotation Agent as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the applicable Mortgage Bonds to be redeemed (assuming, for this purpose, that the 2031 Mortgage Bonds matured on the 2031 Par Call Date and the 2051 Mortgage Bonds matured on the 2051 Par Call Date), that would be utilized at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of a comparable maturity to the remaining term of such Mortgage Bonds.

"*Comparable Treasury Price*" means, with respect to any redemption date, (A) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (B) if the Quotation Agent obtains fewer than four of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations as determined by us.

"*Quotation Agent*" means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by us.

"*Reference Treasury Dealer*" means each of (i) BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, and (ii) a Primary Treasury Dealer (as defined

below) selected by each of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Truist Securities, Inc.; or, in each case, their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in the United States (a "Primary Treasury Dealer"); provided, however, that if any of the foregoing or their affiliates or successors shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, we shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer.

"*Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations*" means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Quotation Agent, of the bid and asked prices for the applicable Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Quotation Agent by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

"*Treasury Rate*" means, with respect to any redemption date, the rate per annum equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity or interpolated maturity (on a day count basis) of the applicable Comparable Treasury Issue, assuming a price for such Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the applicable Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date.

### **Redemption through the Replacement Fund**

The Mortgage Bonds of each series will also be redeemable through the operation of the Replacement Fund or upon application of moneys arising from a taking of any of the underlying mortgaged property by eminent domain or similar action at any time or from time to time at the special redemption price of 100% of their principal amount, together with accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the redemption date. We have agreed not to apply any cash deposited with the Bond Trustee pursuant to the Replacement Fund to the redemption of the Mortgage Bonds so long as any of the First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds presently outstanding and entitled to the benefit of the Replacement Fund remain outstanding.

### **Redemption Procedures**

We will provide not less than 10 nor more than 60 days' notice to each registered holder of the Mortgage Bonds to be redeemed, which, as long as the Mortgage Bonds are held in the book-entry only system referred to below, will be DTC, its nominee or a successor depository or a nominee thereof. If the redemption notice is given and funds deposited as required, then interest will cease to accrue on and after the redemption date on the Mortgage Bonds or portions of such Mortgage Bonds called for redemption. In the event that any redemption date is not a business day, we will pay the redemption price on the next business day without any interest or other payment due to the delay. So long as the Mortgage Bonds are registered in the name of DTC or its nominee, if we elect to redeem less than all of the Mortgage Bonds of any series, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each direct participant in DTC in the Mortgage Bonds of such series to be redeemed. At all other times, the Bond Trustee shall determine by lot, in such manner as it in its uncontrolled discretion shall determine to be fair, the particular Mortgage Bonds, or portions of them, to be redeemed. For further information on DTC and its practices, see "Book-Entry System—The Depository Trust Company" below.

### **Release Provisions**

The Mortgage permits us to dispose of certain property and to take other actions without the Bond Trustee releasing that property. The Mortgage also permits the release of mortgaged property if we deposit cash or other consideration equal to the value of the mortgaged property to be released. In certain events and within certain limitations, the Bond Trustee is required to pay out cash that the Bond Trustee receives—other than for the Replacement Fund or as the basis for issuing Bonds—upon Duke Energy Carolinas' application.

We may withdraw cash that we deposited with the Bond Trustee as the basis for issuing Bonds in an amount equal to the principal amount of any Bonds that we are entitled to have authenticated and delivered on the basis of additional property (electric), on the basis of Bonds previously authenticated and delivered or on the basis of refundable prior lien bonds.

## Security and Ranking

The Mortgage Bonds are two new series of Bonds and will rank equally with all other Bonds from time to time outstanding. At December 31, 2020, we had outstanding approximately \$10.0 billion in aggregate principal amount of outstanding Bonds, which will rank equally with the Mortgage Bonds. The Mortgage creates a continuing lien to secure the payment of principal and interest on the Bonds. All the Bonds are equally and ratably secured without preference, priority or distinction. With some exceptions, the lien of the Mortgage covers substantially all of our properties, real, personal and mixed, and our franchises, including properties acquired after the date of the Mortgage. Those exceptions include cash, accounts receivable, inventories of materials and supplies, merchandise held for sale, securities that we hold, after-acquired property not useful in our electric business and after-acquired franchises not useful for the properties subject to the lien of the Mortgage.

We have not made any appraisal of the value of the properties subject to the lien of the Mortgage. The value of the properties in the event of liquidation will depend on market and economic conditions, the availability of buyers and other factors. In the event of liquidation, if the proceeds were not sufficient to repay amounts under all of the Bonds then outstanding, then holders of the Bonds, to the extent not repaid from the proceeds of the sale of the collateral, would only have an unsecured claim against our remaining assets. As of December 31, 2020, we had approximately \$12.3 billion of outstanding indebtedness, consisting of approximately \$10.6 billion of total senior secured indebtedness and approximately \$1.7 billion of total senior unsecured indebtedness.

The lien of the Mortgage is subject to certain permitted liens and to liens that exist upon properties that we acquired after we entered into the Mortgage to the extent of the amounts of prior lien bonds secured by those properties (not, however, exceeding 75% of the cost or value of those properties) and additions to those properties. "Prior lien bonds" are bonds or other indebtedness that are secured at the time of acquisition by a lien upon property that we acquire after the date of the Mortgage that becomes subject to the lien of the Mortgage.

## Sinking Fund

The Mortgage Bonds will not be entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.

## Amendments of the Mortgage

Subject to some exceptions, we may amend the Mortgage with the consent of the holders of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % in principal amount of the Bonds and we may amend the Mortgage for the benefit of the holders of Mortgage Bonds offered hereby without the consent of the holders of such Mortgage Bonds. No amendment, however, which requires holder consent as aforesaid, may affect the rights under the Mortgage of the holders of less than all of the series of Bonds outstanding unless the holders of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % in principal amount of the Bonds of each series affected consent to the amendment. The covenants included in the Supplemental Indenture are solely for the benefit of the holders of the Mortgage Bonds offered hereby.

## Events of Default

The Bond Trustee may, and at the written request of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Bonds will, declare the principal of all outstanding Bonds due when any event of default under the Mortgage occurs. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Bonds may, however, waive the default and rescind the declaration if we cure the default. We provide a statement from an officer each year to the Bond Trustee stating whether we have complied with the covenants of the Mortgage.

## Basis for Issuance of the Mortgage Bonds

We will issue the Mortgage Bonds upon the basis of previously authenticated and delivered Bonds that have been retired. Under the terms of the Mortgage, assuming that the applicable net earnings requirements are satisfied under the Mortgage, (i) as of March 31, 2020, we could issue additional Bonds in amounts equal to approximately \$12.2 billion based upon the net amount of additional property (electric) certified to the Bond Trustee after February 18, 1949 and (ii) as of December 31, 2020, we could issue additional

Bonds in amounts equal to approximately \$1.4 billion based upon the amount of previously authenticated and delivered Bonds that have been retired (approximately \$400 million after giving effect to the offerings). For more information on our ability to issue additional Bonds, see “Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds—Issuance of Additional Bonds” in the accompanying prospectus.

**Concerning the Bond Trustee**

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. is the Bond Trustee. Duke Energy Carolinas and some of its affiliates have banking relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon, an affiliate of the Bond Trustee. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. or its affiliate also serves as trustee or agent under other indentures and agreements pursuant to which securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and of some of its affiliates are outstanding.

The Bond Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its powers at the request of any of the holders of the Bonds unless the holders thereof have offered to the Bond Trustee security or indemnity satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses and liabilities it might incur as a result. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the Bonds outstanding may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Bond Trustee, or the exercise of any trust or power of the Bond Trustee. The Bond Trustee will not be liable for any action that it takes or omits to take in good faith in accordance with any such direction.

## CERTAIN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS FOR NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following discussion summarizes certain U.S. federal income tax considerations relevant to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Mortgage Bonds, and does not purport to be a complete analysis of all potential U.S. federal income tax considerations. This discussion only applies to Mortgage Bonds that are held as capital assets, within the meaning of section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and that are purchased in the initial offering at the initial offering price by Non-U.S. Holders (as defined below).

This summary is based on the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and regulations of the Treasury Department, changes to any of which subsequent to the date of this prospectus supplement may affect the tax consequences described herein. This discussion does not describe all of the U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to Non-U.S. Holders in light of their particular circumstances or to Non-U.S. Holders subject to special rules, such as certain financial institutions, tax-exempt organizations, insurance companies, traders or dealers in securities or commodities, persons holding Mortgage Bonds as part of a hedge or other integrated transaction, accrual method taxpayers subject to special tax accounting rules as a result of their use of certain financial statements under Section 451(b) of the Code, or certain former citizens or residents of the United States. This discussion does not address any U.S. federal income tax consequences for U.S. taxpayers who purchase Mortgage Bonds. Persons considering the purchase of Mortgage Bonds are urged to consult their tax advisors with regard to the application of the U.S. federal income tax laws to their particular situations as well as any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, local or foreign taxing jurisdiction. Furthermore, this discussion does not describe the effect of U.S. federal estate and gift tax laws or the effect of any applicable foreign, state or local laws.

We have not and will not seek any rulings or opinions from the Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) with respect to the matters discussed below. There can be no assurance that the IRS will not take a different position concerning the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership or disposition of the Mortgage Bonds or that any such position would not be sustained.

**Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors with regard to the application of the U.S. federal income tax considerations discussed below to their particular situations as well as the application of any state, local, foreign or other tax laws, including gift and estate tax laws.**

For purposes of this summary, a “Non-U.S. Holder” means a beneficial owner of a Mortgage Bond that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is neither a partnership (including an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) nor (i) an individual that is a citizen or resident of the United States; (ii) a corporation or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes that is created or organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia; (iii) an estate the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or (iv) a trust if (A) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over its administration and one or more United States persons (as defined in the Code) have the authority to control all substantial decisions of such trust, or (B) the trust has made an election under the applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person.

If a partnership, or other entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes, holds Mortgage Bonds, the tax treatment of a partner in such a partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partners in a partnership holding Mortgage Bonds should consult their tax advisor as to the particular U.S. federal income tax considerations relevant to the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Mortgage Bonds applicable to them.

### Interest

It is anticipated, and this discussion assumes, that the Mortgage Bonds will not be issued with more than a de minimis amount of original issue discount. Except if interest on the Mortgage Bonds is effectively connected with the conduct by a Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business within the United States, and subject to the discussions below under “Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act” and “Information Reporting and Backup Withholding,” a Non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on payments of interest on the Mortgage Bonds provided that such Non-U.S. Holder



(A) does not directly or indirectly, actually or constructively, own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our equity entitled to vote, (B) is not a controlled foreign corporation that is related to us directly or constructively through stock ownership, (C) is not a bank receiving such interest on an extension of credit made pursuant to a loan agreement entered into in the ordinary course of its trade or business, and (D) satisfies certain certification requirements. Such certification requirements will be met if (x) the Non-U.S. Holder provides its name and address, and certifies on an IRS Form W-8BEN or IRS Form W-8BEN-E (or a substantially similar form), under penalties of perjury, that it is not a United States person or (y) a securities clearing organization or certain other financial institutions holding the Mortgage Bonds on behalf of the Non-U.S. Holder certifies on IRS Form W-8IMY, under penalties of perjury, that such certification has been received by it and furnishes us or our paying agent with a copy thereof. In addition, we or our paying agent must not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the beneficial owner of the Mortgage Bonds is a United States person.

If interest on the Mortgage Bonds is not effectively connected with the conduct by the Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business within the United States, but such Non-U.S. Holder does not satisfy the other requirements outlined in the preceding paragraph, interest on the Mortgage Bonds generally will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at a 30% rate (or a lower applicable treaty rate).

If interest on the Mortgage Bonds is effectively connected with the conduct by a Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business within the United States, and, if certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base within the United States, the Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a net income basis at the rate applicable to United States persons generally (and, with respect to corporate holders, may also be subject to a 30% branch profits tax or a lower applicable treaty branch profits tax rate). If interest on the Mortgage Bonds is effectively connected with the conduct by a Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business within the United States, such interest payments will not be subject to U.S. withholding tax so long as the Non-U.S. Holder provides us or our paying agent with the appropriate documentation (generally an IRS Form W-8ECI).

#### **Sale, Redemption, or Other Taxable Disposition of the Mortgage Bonds**

Subject to the discussion below under “Information Reporting and Backup Withholding,” a Non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax with respect to gain, if any, recognized on the sale, redemption, or other taxable disposition of the Mortgage Bonds. A Non-U.S. Holder will also generally not be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to such gain, unless (i) the gain is effectively connected with the conduct by such Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business within the United States, and, if certain tax treaties apply, is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base within the United States, or (ii) in the case of a Non-U.S. Holder that is a nonresident alien individual, such Non-U.S. Holder is present in the United States for 183 or more days in the taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are satisfied. In the case described in (i) above, gain or loss recognized on the disposition of such Mortgage Bonds generally will be subject to U.S. federal income taxation in the same manner as if such gain or loss were recognized by a United States person, and, in the case of a Non-U.S. Holder that is a foreign corporation, may also be subject to the branch profits tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower applicable treaty branch profits tax rate). In the case described in (ii) above, the Non-U.S. Holder will be subject to a 30% tax (or a lower applicable treaty rate) on any capital gain recognized on the disposition of the Mortgage Bonds (after being offset by certain U.S. source capital losses).

#### **Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

Information returns will be filed annually with the IRS in connection with payments we make on the Mortgage Bonds. Copies of these information returns may also be made available under the provisions of a specific tax treaty or other agreement to the tax authorities of the country in which the Non-U.S. Holder resides. Unless the Non-U.S. Holder complies with certification procedures to establish that it is not a United States person, information returns may be filed with the IRS in connection with the proceeds from a sale, redemption, or other disposition of the Mortgage Bonds, and the Non-U.S. Holder may be subject to backup withholding (currently at a rate of 24%) on payments on the Mortgage Bonds or on the proceeds from a sale, redemption, or other disposition of the Mortgage Bonds. The certification procedures required to claim the exemption from withholding on interest described above will satisfy the certification requirements

necessary to avoid the backup withholding as well. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a Non-U.S. Holder generally will be allowed as a credit against the Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the Non-U.S. Holder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS in a timely manner.

**Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act**

Under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act and related IRS guidance concerning foreign account tax compliance rules ("FATCA"), a 30% U.S. withholding tax is imposed on certain payments (which includes interest payments on the Mortgage Bonds) made to a non-United States entity that fails to take required steps to provide information regarding its "United States accounts" or its direct or indirect "substantial United States owners," as applicable, or to make a required certification that it has no such accounts or owners. We will not be obligated to make any "gross up" or additional payments in respect of amounts withheld on the Mortgage Bonds if we determine that we must so withhold in order to comply with FATCA in respect of the amounts described above. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors regarding FATCA and whether it may be relevant to the ownership and disposition of the Mortgage Bonds.

## BOOK-ENTRY SYSTEM

We have obtained the information in this section concerning DTC and its book-entry system and procedures from sources that we believe to be reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

Each series of the Mortgage Bonds initially will be represented by one or more fully registered global securities. Each global security will be deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC or any successor thereto and registered in the name of Cede & Co., DTC's nominee.

Investors may elect to hold interests in each global security through either DTC in the United States or Clearstream or the Euroclear System in Europe if they are participants of such systems, or indirectly through organizations which are participants in such systems. Clearstream and the Euroclear System will hold interests on behalf of their participants through customers' securities accounts in Clearstream's and the Euroclear System's names on the books of their respective depositaries, which in turn will hold such interests in customers' securities accounts in the depositaries' names on the books of DTC. Citibank, N.A. will act as depositary for Clearstream and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. will act as depositary for the Euroclear System (in such capacities, the "U.S. Depositaries").

You may hold your interests in a global security in the United States through DTC, either as a participant in such system or indirectly through organizations which are participants in such system. So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the global securities representing the Mortgage Bonds, DTC or such nominee will be considered the sole owner and holder of the Mortgage Bonds for all purposes of the Mortgage Bonds and the Mortgage. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in the Mortgage Bonds will not be entitled to have the Mortgage Bonds registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the Mortgage Bonds in definitive form and will not be considered the owners or holders of the Mortgage Bonds under the Mortgage, including for purposes of receiving any reports that we or the Bond Trustee deliver pursuant to the Mortgage. Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a Mortgage Bond must rely on the procedures of DTC or its nominee and, if such person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which such person owns its interest, in order to exercise any rights of a holder of Mortgage Bonds.

Unless and until we issue the Mortgage Bonds in fully certificated form under the limited circumstances described below under the heading "—Certificated Mortgage Bonds":

- you will not be entitled to receive physical delivery of a certificate representing your interest in the Mortgage Bonds;
- all references in this prospectus supplement or in the accompanying prospectus to actions by holders will refer to actions taken by DTC upon instructions from its direct participants; and
- all references in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus to payments and notices to holders will refer to payments and notices to DTC or Cede & Co., as the registered holder of the Mortgage Bonds, for distribution to you in accordance with DTC procedures.

### The Depository Trust Company

DTC will act as securities depository for the Mortgage Bonds. The Mortgage Bonds will be issued as fully registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. DTC is:

- a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law;
- a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law;
- a member of the Federal Reserve System;
- a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code; and
- a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

DTC holds securities that its direct participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among direct participants of sales and other securities transactions, in deposited securities through

electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between direct participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates.

Direct participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to indirect participants such as securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant, either directly or indirectly. The rules applicable to DTC and its participants are on file with the SEC. More information about DTC can be found at [www.dtcc.com](http://www.dtcc.com). The contents of such website do not constitute part of this prospectus supplement.

If you are not a direct participant or an indirect participant and you wish to purchase, sell or otherwise transfer ownership of, or other interests in the Mortgage Bonds, you must do so through a direct participant or an indirect participant. DTC agrees with and represents to DTC participants that it will administer its book-entry system in accordance with its rules and by-laws and requirements of law. The SEC has on file a set of the rules applicable to DTC and its direct participants.

Purchases of the Mortgage Bonds under DTC's system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the Mortgage Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each beneficial owner is in turn to be recorded on the records of direct participants and indirect participants. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participants through which such beneficial owners entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Mortgage Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of direct and indirect participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive physical delivery of certificates representing their ownership interests in the Mortgage Bonds, except as provided below in "—Certificated Mortgage Bonds."

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Mortgage Bonds deposited by direct participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Mortgage Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee has no effect on beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the Mortgage Bonds. DTC's records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts such Mortgage Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the beneficial owners. The direct and indirect participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants and by direct and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

#### **Book-Entry Format**

Under the book-entry format, the Bond Trustee will pay interest and principal payments to Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. DTC will forward the payment to the direct participants, who will then forward the payment to the indirect participants or to the beneficial owners. You may experience some delay in receiving your payments under this system.

DTC is required to make book-entry transfers on behalf of its direct participants and is required to receive and transmit payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the Mortgage Bonds. Any direct participant or indirect participant with which you have an account is similarly required to make book-entry transfers and to receive and transmit payments with respect to Mortgage Bonds on your behalf. We and the Bond Trustee have no responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in the Mortgage Bonds or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

The Bond Trustee will not recognize you as a holder of any Mortgage Bonds under the Mortgage and you can only exercise the rights of a holder indirectly through DTC and its direct participants. DTC has advised us that it will only take action regarding a Mortgage Bond if one or more of the direct participants to whom the Mortgage Bond is credited direct DTC to take such action. DTC can only act on behalf of its direct participants. Your ability to pledge Mortgage Bonds to indirect participants, and to take other actions, may be limited because you will not possess a physical certificate that represents your Mortgage Bonds.

### **Certificated Mortgage Bonds**

Unless and until they are exchanged, in whole or in part, for Mortgage Bonds in definitive form in accordance with the terms of the Mortgage Bonds, the Mortgage Bonds may not be transferred except as a whole by DTC to a nominee of DTC; as a whole by a nominee of DTC to DTC or another nominee of DTC; or as a whole by DTC or a nominee of DTC to a successor of DTC or a nominee of such successor.

We will issue Mortgage Bonds to you or your nominees, in fully certificated registered form, rather than to DTC or its nominees, only if:

- DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as securities depository or DTC is no longer a registered clearing agency under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and we are unable to appoint a qualified successor within 90 days;
- an event of default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the Mortgage Bonds; or
- we, at our option, and subject to DTC's procedures, elect to effect an exchange of global securities for Mortgage Bonds issued to you or your nominees.

If any of the above events occurs, DTC is required to notify all direct participants that Mortgage Bonds in fully certificated registered form are available through DTC. DTC will then surrender each global security representing the Mortgage Bonds along with instructions for re-registration. The Bond Trustee will re-issue the Mortgage Bonds in fully certificated registered form and will recognize the registered holders of the certificated Mortgage Bonds as holders under the Mortgage.

### **Global Clearance and Settlement Procedures**

Initial settlement for the Mortgage Bonds will be made in immediately available funds. Secondary market trading between DTC participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC rules and will be settled in immediately available funds using DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System. Secondary market trading between Clearstream participants and/or Euroclear System participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with the applicable rules and operating procedures of Clearstream and the Euroclear System, as applicable.

Cross-market transfers between persons holding directly or indirectly through DTC on the one hand, and directly or indirectly through Clearstream participants or Euroclear System participants on the other, will be effected through DTC in accordance with DTC rules on behalf of the relevant European international clearing system by its U.S. Depository; however, such cross-market transactions will require delivery of instructions to the relevant European international clearing system by the counterparty in such system in accordance with its rules and procedures and within its established deadlines (European time). The relevant European international clearing system will, if the transaction meets its settlement requirements, deliver instructions to its U.S. Depository to take action to effect final settlement on its behalf by delivering or receiving securities in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day funds settlement applicable to DTC. Clearstream participants and Euroclear System participants may not deliver instructions directly to their respective U.S. Depositories.

Because of time-zone differences, credits of Mortgage Bonds received in Clearstream or the Euroclear System as a result of a transaction with a DTC participant will be made during subsequent securities settlement processing and dated the business day following the DTC settlement date. Such credits or any transactions in such Mortgage Bonds settled during such processing will be reported to the relevant Euroclear System Participant or Clearstream participant on such business day. Cash received in Clearstream or the



Euroclear System as a result of sales of the Mortgage Bonds by or through a Clearstream participant or a Euroclear System participant to a DTC participant will be received with value on the DTC settlement date but will be available in the relevant Clearstream or the Euroclear System cash account only as of the business day following settlement in DTC.

Although DTC, Clearstream and the Euroclear System have agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of Mortgage Bonds among participants of DTC, Clearstream and the Euroclear System, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures and such procedures may be discontinued or changed at any time.

**UNDERWRITING (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)**

We have entered into an underwriting agreement with respect to the Mortgage Bonds with the underwriters listed below for whom BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Truist Securities, Inc. are acting as representatives. Subject to certain conditions, each of the underwriters has severally agreed to purchase the principal amount of Mortgage Bonds indicated in the following table:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Principal Amount of 2031 Mortgage Bonds</u>	<u>Principal Amount of 2051 Mortgage Bonds</u>
BNP Paribas Securities Corp.	\$ 74,250,000	\$ 60,750,000
BofA Securities, Inc.	74,250,000	60,750,000
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC	74,250,000	60,750,000
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	74,250,000	60,750,000
Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC	74,250,000	60,750,000
Truist Securities, Inc.	74,250,000	60,750,000
Santander Investment Securities Inc.	32,120,000	26,280,000
Loop Capital Markets LLC	32,065,000	26,235,000
Regions Securities LLC	32,065,000	26,235,000
CastleOak Securities, L.P.	2,750,000	2,250,000
Drexel Hamilton, LLC	2,750,000	2,250,000
Samuel A. Ramirez & Company, Inc.	2,750,000	2,250,000
Total	<u>\$550,000,000</u>	<u>\$450,000,000</u>

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the several underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the Mortgage Bonds are subject to certain conditions, including the receipt of legal opinions relating to certain matters. The underwriters must purchase all of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds if they purchase any of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds, and the underwriters must purchase all of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds if they purchase any of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds. However, the sales of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds and the 2051 Mortgage Bonds are not conditioned upon each other, and we may consummate the sale of one series and not the other, or consummate the sales at different times. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the nondefaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of any of these liabilities.

The underwriters are offering the Mortgage Bonds subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the Mortgage Bonds, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriters of officers' certificates and legal opinions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

**Commissions and Discounts**

The Mortgage Bonds sold by the underwriters to the public will initially be offered at the applicable price to the public set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement and may be offered to certain dealers at such price less a concession not in excess of (i) 0.400% of the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds or (ii) 0.500% of the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds. The underwriters may allow, and those dealers may reallow, a discount not in excess of (i) 0.250% of the principal amount of the 2031 Mortgage Bonds or (ii) 0.350% of the principal amount of the 2051 Mortgage Bonds to certain other dealers. If all the Mortgage Bonds are not sold at the applicable price to the public, the underwriters may change such price to the public and the other selling terms.

The expenses of the offerings, not including the respective underwriting discounts, are estimated to be approximately \$889,000. The underwriters have agreed to make a payment to us in an amount equal to \$1,662,500, including in respect of expenses incurred by us in connection with the offerings.

**Settlement**

It is expected that delivery of the Mortgage Bonds will be made against payment for the Mortgage Bonds on or about the date specified on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, which is the third business day following the date of this prospectus supplement (such settlement cycle being referred to as "T+3"). Under Rule 15c6-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the Mortgage Bonds on the date of this prospectus supplement will be required, by virtue of the fact that the Mortgage Bonds initially will settle in T+3, to specify an alternative settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent a failed settlement. Purchasers of the Mortgage Bonds who wish to trade the Mortgage Bonds on the date of this prospectus supplement should consult their own advisors.

**New Issue of Mortgage Bonds**

Each series of the Mortgage Bonds is a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The Mortgage Bonds will not be listed on any securities exchange or included in any automated quotation system. We have been advised by the underwriters that the underwriters intend to make a market in each series of the Mortgage Bonds, but they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue market-making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of any trading markets for the Mortgage Bonds.

**Price Stabilization and Short Positions**

In connection with the offerings, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain, or otherwise affect the prices of the Mortgage Bonds. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater aggregate principal amount of each series of Mortgage Bonds than they are required to purchase in the offerings. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases made for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of each series of the Mortgage Bonds while the offerings are in process.

These activities by the underwriters may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market prices of the Mortgage Bonds. As a result, the price of each series of the Mortgage Bonds may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market. If these activities are commenced, they may be discontinued by the underwriters at any time. These transactions may be effected in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

**Other Relationships**

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include, among other activities, securities trading and underwriting, commercial and investment banking, financial advisory, corporate trust, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, financing and brokerage activities. In the ordinary course of their respective businesses, some of the underwriters and/or their affiliates have in the past and may in the future provide us and our subsidiaries and affiliates with commercial banking, investment banking, financial advisory and other services for which they have received and in the future will receive customary fees.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates may make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates.

Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates have a lending relationship with us and our affiliates. Certain of those underwriters or their affiliates routinely hedge, and certain other of those underwriters or their affiliates may hedge, their credit exposure to us and our affiliates consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such underwriters and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities, including potentially the Mortgage Bonds offered hereby. Any such credit

default swaps or short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the Mortgage Bonds offered hereby. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make investment recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

A portion of the aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds is expected to be used to repay at maturity the 2021 Bonds. To the extent any of the underwriters or their affiliates own the 2021 Bonds, such party would receive a portion of the aggregate net proceeds from the sale of the Mortgage Bonds. Accordingly, any such underwriter may have a conflict of interest, in that it has an interest in the offering beyond the underwriting discount it receives in connection with the offerings.

#### **Selling Restrictions**

##### ***European Economic Area***

##### ***Prohibition of Sales to EEA Retail Investors***

The Mortgage Bonds may not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the EEA. For the purposes of this provision:

- (a) the expression “retail investor” means a person who is one (or more) of the following:
  - (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or
  - (ii) a customer within the meaning of the Insurance Distribution Directive, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II; or
  - (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Regulation; and
- (b) the expression “offer” includes the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Mortgage Bonds to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the Mortgage Bonds.

##### ***United Kingdom***

##### ***Prohibition of Sales to United Kingdom Retail Investors***

The Mortgage Bonds may not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the United Kingdom. For the purposes of this provision:

- (a) the expression “retail investor” means a person who is one (or more) of the following:
  - (i) a retail client, as defined in point (8) of Article 2 of Regulation (EU) No 2017/565 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA; or
  - (ii) a customer within the meaning of the provisions of the FSMA and any rules or regulations made under the FSMA to implement the Insurance Distribution Directive, where that customer would not qualify as a professional client, as defined in point (8) of Article 2(1) of Regulation (EU) No 600/2014 as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA; or
  - (iii) not a qualified investor as defined in Article 2 of the Prospectus Regulation as it forms part of domestic law by virtue of the EUWA; and
- (b) the expression “offer” includes the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Mortgage Bonds to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the Mortgage Bonds.

Any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the FSMA) in connection with the issue or sale of the Mortgage Bonds may only be communicated or caused to be communicated in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to Duke Energy Carolinas.

All applicable provisions of the FSMA must be complied with in respect to anything done by any person in relation to the Mortgage Bonds in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

#### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Canada***

The Mortgage Bonds may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the Mortgage Bonds must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 of National Instrument 33-105 *Underwriting Conflicts* (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with the offerings.

#### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland***

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not intended to constitute an offer or solicitation to purchase or invest in the Mortgage Bonds. The Mortgage Bonds may not be publicly offered, directly or indirectly, in Switzerland within the meaning of the Swiss Financial Services Act ("FinSA") and no application has or will be made to admit the Mortgage Bonds to trading on any trading venue (exchange or multilateral trading facility) in Switzerland. Neither this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the Mortgage Bonds constitutes a prospectus pursuant to the FinSA, and neither this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus nor any other offering or marketing material relating to the Mortgage Bonds may be publicly distributed or otherwise made publicly available in Switzerland.

#### ***Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong***

The Mortgage Bonds have not been offered and will not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong), (ii) to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" within the meaning of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong) and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the Mortgage Bonds may be issued or has been or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to Mortgage Bonds which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

***Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan***

The Mortgage Bonds have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (Law No. 25 of 1948, as amended) (the “Financial Instruments and Exchange Law”), and the Mortgage Bonds have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and guidelines promulgated by the relevant Japanese governmental and regulatory authorities and in effect at the relevant time.

***Notice to Prospective Investors in the Republic of Korea***

The Mortgage Bonds may not be offered, sold and delivered directly or indirectly, or offered or sold to any person for reoffering or resale, directly or indirectly, in the Republic of Korea or to any resident of the Republic of Korea except pursuant to the applicable laws and regulations of the Republic of Korea, including the Korea Securities and Exchange Act and the Foreign Exchange Transaction Law and the decrees and regulations thereunder. The Mortgage Bonds have not been and will not be registered with the Financial Services Commission of Korea for public offering in the Republic of Korea. Furthermore, the Mortgage Bonds may not be resold to residents of the Republic of Korea unless the purchaser of the Mortgage Bonds complies with all applicable regulatory requirements (including but not limited to government approval requirements under the Foreign Exchange Transaction Law and its subordinate decrees and regulations) in connection with the purchase of the Mortgage Bonds.

***Notice to Prospective Investors in Taiwan***

The Mortgage Bonds have not been and will not be registered with the Financial Supervisory Commission of Taiwan, the Republic of China (“Taiwan”), pursuant to relevant securities laws and regulations and may not be offered or sold in Taiwan through a public offering or in any manner which would constitute an offer within the meaning of the Securities and Exchange Act of Taiwan or would otherwise require registration with or the approval of the Financial Supervisory Commission of Taiwan. No person or entity in Taiwan has been authorized to offer, sell, give advice regarding or otherwise intermediate the offering or sale of the Mortgage Bonds in Taiwan.

***Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Arab Emirates***

The Mortgage Bonds have not been, and are not being, publicly offered, sold, promoted or advertised in the United Arab Emirates (including the Dubai International Financial Centre) other than in compliance with the laws of the United Arab Emirates (and the Dubai International Financial Centre) governing the issue, offering and sale of securities. Further, this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute a public offer of securities in the United Arab Emirates (including the Dubai International Financial Centre) and are not intended to be a public offer. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus have not been approved by or filed with the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates, the Securities and Commodities Authority or the Dubai Financial Services Authority.



**LEGAL MATTERS**

The validity of the Mortgage Bonds will be passed upon for Duke Energy Carolinas by Robert T. Lucas III, Esq., who is Deputy General Counsel of Duke Energy Business Services LLC, the service company affiliate of Duke Energy Carolinas. In rendering his opinion, Mr. Lucas will rely upon in-house and/or outside South Carolina counsel to Duke Energy Carolinas on all matters of South Carolina law. Certain legal matters with respect to the offerings of the Mortgage Bonds will be passed upon for Duke Energy Carolinas by Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, New York, New York. Sidley Austin LLP, New York, New York, has acted as counsel to the underwriters. Sidley Austin LLP acts and, in the past has acted, as counsel to affiliates of Duke Energy Carolinas in connection with various matters.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and, in accordance therewith, file annual, quarterly and current reports and other information with the SEC. Our filings with the SEC, as well as additional information about us, are available to the public through Duke Energy Corporation's website at <http://www.duke-energy.com> and are made available as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is filed with or furnished to the SEC. The information on Duke Energy Corporation's website is not a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Our filings are also available to the public through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" into this prospectus supplement the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus supplement, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. This prospectus supplement incorporates by reference the documents incorporated in the accompanying prospectus at the time the registration statement became effective and all later documents filed with the SEC, in all cases as updated and superseded by later filings with the SEC. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future documents filed by us with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, until the offerings are completed:

- [Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020](#); and
- [Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 25, 2021](#).

We, our parent company, Duke Energy Corporation, and certain of its other subsidiaries separately filed the combined Annual Report on Form 10-K listed above. We do not intend to incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement the information relating to Duke Energy Corporation and its subsidiaries (other than Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and its consolidated subsidiaries), and we make no representation as to the information relating to Duke Energy Corporation and its subsidiaries (other than Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and its consolidated subsidiaries) contained in such combined reports.

We will provide you without charge a copy of these filings, other than any exhibits unless the exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement. You may request a copy by writing us at the following address or telephoning one of the following numbers:

Investor Relations Department  
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
P.O. Box 1005  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201  
(704) 382-3853 or (800) 488-3853 (toll-free)

## Prospectus

**Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC****First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds  
Senior Notes  
Subordinated Notes**

From time to time, we may offer the securities described in this prospectus separately or together in any combination, in one or more classes or series, in amounts, at prices and on terms that we will determine at the time of the offering.

We will provide specific terms of these offerings and securities in supplements to this prospectus. You should read carefully this prospectus, the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to offer or sell any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

**Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider the information in the section entitled “Risk Factors” on page [1](#) of this prospectus before you invest in any of our securities.**

We may offer and sell the securities directly, through agents we select from time to time or to or through underwriters or dealers we select. If we use any agents, underwriters or dealers to sell the securities, we will name them and describe their compensation in a prospectus supplement. The price to the public of those securities and the net proceeds we expect to receive from that sale will also be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is September 23, 2019.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS****Prospectus**

	<u>Page</u>
<a href="#"><u>REFERENCES TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>i</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>i</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>ii</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>THE COMPANY</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>1</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>RISK FACTORS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>1</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>1</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>1</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR NOTES</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>DESCRIPTION OF SUBORDINATED NOTES</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>12</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>GLOBAL SECURITIES</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>18</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>19</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>EXPERTS</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>20</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>20</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>20</u></a>

**REFERENCES TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This prospectus incorporates important business and financial information about us from other documents that are not included in or delivered with this prospectus. This information is available for you to review through the Securities and Exchange Commission's, or SEC's, website, [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). You can also obtain those documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone from the company at the following address and telephone number:

Investor Relations Department  
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
P.O. Box 1005  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201  
(704) 382-3853 or (800) 488-3853 (toll-free)

See "Where You Can Find More Information" in this prospectus.

**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that Duke Energy Carolinas filed with the SEC utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we are registering an unspecified amount of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Senior Notes, and Subordinated Notes, and may issue any of such securities in one or more offerings.

This prospectus provides general descriptions of the securities Duke Energy Carolinas may offer. Each time securities are sold, a prospectus supplement will provide specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. The registration statement filed with the SEC includes exhibits that provide more details about the matters discussed in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, the related exhibits filed with the SEC and any prospectus supplement, together with the additional information described under the caption "Where You Can Find More Information."

Unless we have indicated otherwise, or the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to "Duke Energy Carolinas," "we," "us" and "our" or similar terms are to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and its subsidiaries.

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus include forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements are based on our management's beliefs and assumptions and can often be identified by terms and phrases that include "anticipate," "believe," "intend," "estimate," "expect," "continue," "should," "could," "may," "plan," "project," "predict," "will," "potential," "forecast," "target," "guidance," "outlook," or other similar terminology. Various factors may cause actual results to be materially different than the suggested outcomes within forward-looking statements; accordingly, there is no assurance that such results will be realized.

In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the events described in the forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus might not occur or might occur to a different extent or at a different time than described. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made and we expressly disclaim an obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## THE COMPANY

Duke Energy Carolinas, a North Carolina limited liability company and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation, is a regulated public utility primarily engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity in portions of North Carolina and South Carolina. Its service area covers approximately 24,000 square miles. Duke Energy Carolinas supplies electric service to approximately 2.6 million residential, commercial and industrial customers. As of December 31, 2018, our asset portfolio included approximately 20,209 megawatts of generation capacity, 105,100 miles of distribution lines, and 13,077 miles of transmission lines.

We are a North Carolina limited liability company. The address of our principal executive offices is 526 South Church Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202-1803. Our telephone number is (704) 382-3853.

The foregoing information about Duke Energy Carolinas is only a general summary and is not intended to be comprehensive. For additional information about Duke Energy Carolinas, you should refer to the information described under the caption “Where You Can Find More Information.”

## RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. Before purchasing any securities we offer, you should carefully consider the risk factors that are incorporated by reference herein from the section captioned “Risk Factors” in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K as they may be updated by our subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement and any other information that we have incorporated by reference, including filings made with the SEC subsequent to the date hereof. Any of these risks, as well as other risks and uncertainties, could harm our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

## USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless stated otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of any offered securities:

- to redeem or purchase from time to time presently outstanding securities when we anticipate those transactions will result in an overall cost savings;
- to repay maturing securities;
- to finance our ongoing construction program; or
- for general company purposes.

## DESCRIPTION OF FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS

Duke Energy Carolinas will issue the First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds in one or more series under its First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1927, to The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee, as supplemented and amended from time to time. The First and Refunding Mortgage is sometimes called the “Mortgage” and the First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds are sometimes called the “Bonds” in this prospectus. The trustee under the Mortgage is sometimes called the “Bond Trustee” in this prospectus. The Mortgage, including material supplements and amendments thereto, is an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part.

The following description of the Bonds is only a summary and is not intended to be comprehensive. For additional information you should refer to the Mortgage.

### General

The amount of Bonds that Duke Energy Carolinas may issue under the Mortgage is unlimited. Duke Energy Carolinas’ Board of Directors will determine the terms of each series of Bonds, including denominations, maturity, interest rate and payment terms and whether the series will have redemption or sinking fund provisions or will be convertible into other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas. The Bonds may also be issued as part of the medium term note series established under the Mortgage. Duke Energy



Carolinas may at any time deliver executed Bonds to the Bond Trustee for authentication, and the Bond Trustee shall authenticate such Bonds upon the written order of Duke Energy Carolinas and satisfaction of certain other conditions set forth in the Mortgage.

Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, Duke Energy Carolinas will issue the Bonds only in fully registered form without coupons and there will be no service charge for any transfers and exchanges of the Bonds. Duke Energy Carolinas may, however, require payment to cover any stamp tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with any transfer or exchange. Transfers and exchanges of the Bonds may be made at The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286 or at any other office maintained by Duke Energy Carolinas for such purpose.

The Bonds will be issuable in denominations of \$1,000 and multiples of \$1,000, unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement. The Bonds may be exchangeable for an equivalent principal amount of Bonds of other authorized denominations of the same series.

The prospectus supplement for a particular series of Bonds will describe the maturity, interest rate and payment terms of those Bonds and any relevant redemption or sinking fund provisions.

### Security

The Mortgage creates a continuing lien to secure the payment of principal and interest on the Bonds. All the Bonds are equally and ratably secured without preference, priority or distinction. With some exceptions, the lien of the Mortgage covers substantially all of Duke Energy Carolinas' properties, real, personal and mixed, and Duke Energy Carolinas' franchises, including properties acquired after the date of the Mortgage and the date hereof. Those exceptions include cash, accounts receivable, inventories of materials and supplies, merchandise held for sale, securities that Duke Energy Carolinas holds, after-acquired property not useful in Duke Energy Carolinas' electric business and after-acquired franchises not useful for the properties subject to the lien of the Mortgage.

We have not made any appraisal of the value of the properties subject to the lien of the Mortgage. The value of the properties in the event of liquidation will depend on market and economic conditions, the availability of buyers and other factors. In the event of liquidation, if the proceeds were not sufficient to repay amounts under all of the Bonds then outstanding, then holders of the Bonds, to the extent not repaid from the proceeds of the sale of the collateral, would only have an unsecured claim against our remaining assets.

The lien of the Mortgage is subject to certain permitted liens and to liens that exist upon properties that Duke Energy Carolinas acquired after it entered into the Mortgage to the extent of the amounts of prior lien bonds secured by those properties (not, however, exceeding 75% of the cost or value of those properties) and additions to those properties. "Prior lien bonds" are bonds or other indebtedness that are secured at the time of acquisition by a lien upon property that Duke Energy Carolinas acquires after the date of the Mortgage that becomes subject to the lien of the Mortgage.

### Issuance of Additional Bonds

If Duke Energy Carolinas satisfies the conditions in the Mortgage, the Bond Trustee may authenticate and deliver additional Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding:

- the amount of cash that Duke Energy Carolinas has deposited with the Bond Trustee for that purpose (not to exceed \$5,000,000 at any one time);
- the amount of previously authenticated and delivered Bonds or refundable prior lien bonds that have been or are to be retired which, with some exceptions, Duke Energy Carolinas has deposited with the Bond Trustee for that purpose; or
- 66<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% of the aggregate of the net amounts of additional property (electric) certified to the Bond Trustee after February 18, 1949.

The Bond Trustee may not authenticate and deliver any additional Bonds under the Mortgage, other than some types of refunding Bonds, unless Duke Energy Carolinas' available net earnings for twelve

consecutive calendar months within the immediately preceding fifteen calendar months have been at least twice the amount of the annual interest charges on all Bonds outstanding under the Mortgage, including the Bonds proposed to be issued, and on all outstanding prior lien bonds that the Bond Trustee does not hold under the Mortgage.

Duke Energy Carolinas may not apply to the Bond Trustee to authenticate and deliver any Bonds (1) in an aggregate principal amount exceeding \$26,000,000 on the basis of additional property (electric) that Duke Energy Carolinas acquired or constructed prior to January 1, 1949 or (2) on the basis of Bonds or prior lien bonds paid, purchased or redeemed prior to February 1, 1949. Duke Energy Carolinas may not certify any additional property (electric) which is subject to the lien of any prior lien bonds for the purpose of establishing those prior lien bonds as refundable if the aggregate principal amount of those prior lien bonds exceeds 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % of the net amount of the additional property that is subject to the lien of such prior lien bonds.

### Release Provisions

The Mortgage permits Duke Energy Carolinas to dispose of certain property and to take other actions without the Bond Trustee releasing that property. The Mortgage also permits the release of mortgaged property if Duke Energy Carolinas deposits cash or other consideration equal to the value of the mortgaged property to be released. In certain events and within certain limitations, the Bond Trustee is required to pay out cash that the Bond Trustee receives—other than for the Replacement Fund or as the basis for issuing Bonds—upon Duke Energy Carolinas' application.

Duke Energy Carolinas may withdraw cash that it deposited with the Bond Trustee as the basis for issuing Bonds in an amount equal to the principal amount of any Bonds that it is entitled to have authenticated and delivered on the basis of additional property (electric), on the basis of Bonds previously authenticated and delivered or on the basis of refundable prior lien bonds.

### Replacement Fund

The Mortgage requires Duke Energy Carolinas to deposit with the Bond Trustee annually, for the Replacement Fund established under the Mortgage, the sum of the "replacement requirements" for all years beginning with 1949 and ending with the last calendar year preceding the deposit date, less certain deductions. Those deductions are (1) the aggregate original cost of all fixed property (electric) retired during that time period, not exceeding the aggregate of the gross amounts of additional property (electric) that Duke Energy Carolinas acquired or constructed during the same period, and (2) the aggregate amount of cash that Duke Energy Carolinas deposited with the Bond Trustee up to that time, or that Duke Energy Carolinas would have been required to deposit except for permitted reductions, under the Replacement Fund.

The "replacement requirement" for any year is 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of the average "amount of depreciable fixed property" (electric) owned by Duke Energy Carolinas at the beginning and end of that year, not exceeding, however, the amount Duke Energy Carolinas is permitted to charge as an operating expense for depreciation or retirement by any governmental authority, or the amount deductible as depreciation or similar expense for federal income tax purposes. The "amount of depreciable fixed property" (electric) is the amount by which the sum of \$192,913,385 plus the aggregate gross amount of all depreciable additional property (electric) that Duke Energy Carolinas acquired or constructed from January 1, 1949 to the date as of which such amount is determined exceeds the original cost of all of Duke Energy Carolinas' depreciable fixed property (electric) retired during that period or released from the lien of the Mortgage.

Duke Energy Carolinas may reduce the amount of cash at any time required to be deposited in the Replacement Fund and may withdraw any cash that it previously deposited that is held in the Replacement Fund:

- in an amount equal to 150% of the principal amount of Bonds previously authenticated and delivered under the Mortgage, or refundable prior lien bonds, deposited with the Bond Trustee and on the basis of which Duke Energy Carolinas would otherwise have been entitled to have additional Bonds authenticated and delivered; and

- in an amount equal to 150% of the principal amount of Bonds which Duke Energy Carolinas would otherwise be entitled to have authenticated and delivered on the basis of additional property (electric).

Upon Duke Energy Carolinas' application, the Bond Trustee will apply cash that Duke Energy Carolinas deposited in the Replacement Fund and has not previously withdrawn to the payment, purchase or redemption of Bonds issued under the Mortgage or to the purchase of refundable prior lien bonds.

Duke Energy Carolinas has never deposited any cash with the Bond Trustee for the Replacement Fund. If Duke Energy Carolinas deposits any cash in the future, it has agreed not to apply that cash to the redemption of the Bonds as long as any Bonds then outstanding remain outstanding.

### **Amendments of the Mortgage**

Duke Energy Carolinas may amend the Mortgage with the consent of the holders of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % in principal amount of the Bonds, except that no such amendment may:

- affect the terms of payment of principal at maturity or of interest or premium on any Bond;
- affect the rights of Bondholders to sue to enforce any such payment at maturity; or
- reduce the percentage of Bonds required to consent to an amendment.

No amendment may affect the rights under the Mortgage of the holders of less than all of the series of Bonds outstanding unless the holders of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % in principal amount of the Bonds of each series affected consent to the amendment.

The covenants included in the supplemental indenture for any series of Bonds to be issued will be solely for the benefit of the holders of those Bonds. Duke Energy Carolinas may modify any such covenant only with the consent of the holders of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % in principal amount of those Bonds outstanding, without the consent of Bondholders of any other series.

### **Events of Default**

The Bond Trustee may, and at the written request of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Bonds will, declare the principal of all outstanding Bonds due when any event of default under the Mortgage occurs. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Bonds may, however, waive the default and rescind the declaration if Duke Energy Carolinas cures the default. The Bond Trustee may, and upon the written request of the holders of more than 75% in principal amount of the Bonds then outstanding (including, if more than one series of Bonds is outstanding, the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of the Bonds of each such series) shall, waive any default under the Mortgage, except a default in the payment of the principal of or interest on any of the Bonds or of any sinking fund payment when due and payable.

Events of default under the Mortgage include:

- default in the payment of principal;
- default for 60 days in the payment of interest;
- default in the payment of principal of any prior lien bond not pledged with the Trustee;
- default in the performance of any other covenant in the Mortgage continuing for 60 days after the Bond Trustee or the holders of not less than 10% in principal amount of the Bonds then outstanding give notice of the default;
- Duke Energy Carolinas is adjudicated insolvent or bankrupt by decree of a court or a receiver is appointed of all or any substantial part of the mortgaged property in an insolvency or bankruptcy proceeding and the order or decree remains unstayed and in effect for 60 days; and
- Duke Energy Carolinas files a petition in voluntary bankruptcy, makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors or consents to the appointment of a receiver of all or any substantial part of the mortgaged property or to any adjudication of insolvency or bankruptcy.

Duke Energy Carolinas provides a statement by its officers each year to the Bond Trustee stating whether it has complied with the covenants of the Mortgage. The Bond Trustee is generally required to provide notice to holders of the Bonds of events of default under the Mortgage known to the Bond Trustee (within certain timetables), but except in the case of default in the payment of the principal or interest on any of the Bonds, or in the payment or satisfaction of any sinking, purchase or replacement fund obligations, the Bond Trustee shall be protected in withholding such notice if the board of directors, the executive committee or a trust committee of directors and/or responsible officers of the Bond Trustee in good faith determine that the withholding of such notice is in the interests of the bondholders.

#### **Satisfaction and Discharge**

Upon the request of Duke Energy Carolinas, all mortgaged property shall revert to Duke Energy Carolinas, the Mortgage shall be satisfied, and the lien of the Mortgage cancelled and discharged when Duke Energy Carolinas shall:

- pay, or provide for the payment by depositing sufficient cash with the Bond Trustee for, the principal of and interest on all outstanding Bonds and coupons therefor to maturity or upon redemption (with evidence of the notice of redemption provided to the Bond Trustee); and/or
- surrender to the Bond Trustee for cancellation all the Bonds and coupons for which payment is not provided; and
- Duke Energy Carolinas has paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable under the Mortgage by Duke Energy Carolinas and performed all covenants and conditions under the Mortgage.

#### **Concerning the Bond Trustee**

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., is the Bond Trustee and is the Senior Indenture Trustee (as defined herein) and the Subordinated Indenture Trustee (as defined herein). Duke Energy Carolinas and some of its affiliates have banking relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. or its affiliate also serve as trustee or agent under other indentures and agreements pursuant to which securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and of some of its affiliates are outstanding.

The Bond Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its powers at the request of any of the holders of the Bonds unless those Bondholders have offered to the Bond Trustee security or indemnity satisfactory to it against the cost, expenses and liabilities it might incur as a result. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the Bonds outstanding may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the Bond Trustee, or the exercise of any trust or power of the Bond Trustee. The Bond Trustee will not be liable for any action that it takes or omits to take in good faith in accordance with any such direction.

Upon application by Duke Energy Carolinas to the Bond Trustee to take action under the Mortgage, Duke Energy is required to furnish to the Bond Trustee evidence of compliance with conditions precedent to such actions, including an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel. In connection with the authentication and delivery of Bonds that require, as a condition precedent, a showing as to Duke Energy Carolinas' net earnings, accountant certificates or opinions may be required, and in connection with the release of certain property or securities from the lien of the Mortgage, certificates of engineers, appraisers or other experts may be required.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR NOTES**

Duke Energy Carolinas will issue the Senior Notes in one or more series under its Senior Indenture dated as of September 1, 1998 (the "Senior Indenture"), as supplemented from time to time. Unless otherwise specified, the trustee under the Senior Indenture (the "Senior Indenture Trustee") will be The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. The Senior Indenture is an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part.

The Senior Notes are unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and will rank equally with all of Duke Energy Carolinas' other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds are effectively senior to the Senior Notes to the extent of the value of the properties securing them.

The following description of the Senior Notes is only a summary and is not intended to be comprehensive. For additional information you should refer to the Senior Indenture.

### General

The Senior Indenture does not limit the amount of Senior Notes that Duke Energy Carolinas may issue under it. Duke Energy Carolinas may issue Senior Notes from time to time under the Senior Indenture in one or more series by entering into supplemental indentures or by its Board of Directors or a duly authorized committee authorizing the issuance. Duke Energy Carolinas may at any time deliver executed Senior Notes to the Senior Indenture Trustee for authentication, and the Senior Indenture Trustee shall authenticate such Senior Notes upon the written request of Duke Energy Carolinas and satisfaction of certain other conditions set forth in the Senior Indenture.

The Senior Notes of a series need not be issued at the same time, bear interest at the same rate or mature on the same date.

The Senior Indenture does not protect the holders of Senior Notes if Duke Energy Carolinas engages in a highly leveraged transaction.

### Provisions Applicable to Particular Series

The prospectus supplement for a particular series of Senior Notes being offered will disclose the specific terms related to the offering, including the price or prices at which the Senior Notes to be offered will be issued. Those terms may include some or all of the following:

- the title of the series;
- the total principal amount of the Senior Notes of the series;
- the date or dates on which principal is payable or the method for determining the date or dates, and any right that Duke Energy Carolinas has to change the date on which principal is payable;
- the interest rate or rates, if any, or the method for determining the rate or rates, and the date or dates from which interest will accrue;
- any interest payment dates and the regular record date for the interest payable on each interest payment date, if any;
- whether Duke Energy Carolinas may extend the interest payment periods and, if so, the terms of the extension;
- the place or places where payments will be made;
- whether Duke Energy Carolinas has the option to redeem the Senior Notes and, if so, the terms of its redemption option;
- any obligation that Duke Energy Carolinas has to redeem the Senior Notes through a sinking fund or to purchase the Senior Notes through a purchase fund or at the option of the holder;
- whether the defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions described under “Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance” will not apply to the Senior Notes;
- the currency in which payments will be made if other than U.S. dollars, and the manner of determining the equivalent of those amounts in U.S. dollars;
- if payments may be made, at Duke Energy Carolinas’ election or at the holder’s election, in a currency other than that in which the Senior Notes are stated to be payable, then the currency in which those payments may be made, the terms and conditions of the election and the manner of determining those amounts;
- the portion of the principal payable upon acceleration of maturity, if other than the entire principal;
- whether the Senior Notes will be issuable as global securities and, if so, the securities depositary;
- any changes in the events of default or covenants with respect to the Senior Notes;

- any index or formula used for determining principal, premium or interest;
- if the principal payable on the maturity date will not be determinable on one or more dates prior to the maturity date, the amount which will be deemed to be such principal amount or the manner of determining it;
- any date or dates after which the holder may convert the Senior Notes into other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and the terms for that conversion;
- any date or dates upon which the Senior Notes will be mandatorily converted into other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and the terms for that conversion;
- any terms for the attachment to Senior Notes of rights to purchase or sell other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas; and
- any other terms.

Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, Duke Energy Carolinas will issue the Senior Notes only in fully registered form without coupons, and there will be no service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange of the Senior Notes. Duke Energy Carolinas may, however, require payment to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with any transfer or exchange. Subject to the terms of the Senior Indenture and the limitations applicable to global securities, transfers and exchanges of the Senior Notes may be made at The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286 or at any other office or agency maintained by Duke Energy Carolinas for such purpose.

The Senior Notes will be issuable in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000, unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Duke Energy Carolinas may offer and sell the Senior Notes, including original issue discount Senior Notes, at a substantial discount below their principal amount. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe special United States federal income tax and any other considerations applicable to those securities. In addition, the applicable prospectus supplement may describe certain special United States federal income tax or other considerations, if any, applicable to any Senior Notes that are denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

### **Redemption**

Provisions relating to the redemption of Senior Notes will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, Duke Energy Carolinas may redeem Senior Notes only upon notice mailed at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the date fixed for redemption. Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, that notice may state that the redemption will be conditional upon the Senior Indenture Trustee, or the applicable paying agent, receiving sufficient funds to pay the principal, premium and interest on those Senior Notes on the date fixed for redemption and that if the Senior Indenture Trustee or the applicable paying agent does not receive those funds, the redemption notice will not apply, and Duke Energy Carolinas will not be required to redeem those Senior Notes.

Duke Energy Carolinas will not be required to:

- issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any Senior Notes of a series during the period beginning 15 days before the date the notice is mailed identifying the Senior Notes of that series that have been selected for redemption; or
- register the transfer of or exchange any Senior Note of that series selected for redemption except the unredeemed portion of a Senior Note being partially redeemed.

### **Consolidation, Merger, Conveyance or Transfer**

The Senior Indenture provides that Duke Energy Carolinas may consolidate or merge with or into, or convey or transfer all or substantially all of its properties and assets to, another corporation or other entity.



Any successor must, however, assume Duke Energy Carolinas' obligations under the Senior Indenture and the Senior Notes issued under it, and Duke Energy Carolinas must deliver to the Senior Indenture Trustee a statement by certain of its officers and an opinion of counsel that affirm compliance with all conditions in the Senior Indenture relating to the transaction. When those conditions are satisfied, the successor will succeed to and be substituted for Duke Energy Carolinas under the Senior Indenture, and Duke Energy Carolinas will be relieved of its obligations under the Senior Indenture and the Senior Notes.

#### **Modification; Waiver**

Duke Energy Carolinas may modify the Senior Indenture with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of all series of Senior Notes that are affected by the modification, voting as one class. The consent of the holder of each outstanding Senior Note affected is, however, required to:

- change the maturity date of the principal or any installment of principal or interest on that Senior Note;
- reduce the principal amount, the interest rate or any premium payable upon redemption of that Senior Note;
- reduce the amount of principal due and payable upon acceleration of maturity;
- change the currency of payment of principal, premium or interest on that Senior Note;
- impair the right to institute suit to enforce any such payment on or after the maturity date or redemption date;
- reduce the percentage in principal amount of Senior Notes of any series required to modify the Senior Indenture, waive compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the Senior Indenture or waive certain defaults; or
- with certain exceptions, modify the provisions of the Senior Indenture governing modifications of the Senior Indenture or governing waiver of covenants or past defaults.

In addition, Duke Energy Carolinas may modify the Senior Indenture for certain other purposes, without the consent of any holders of Senior Notes.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of any series may waive, for that series, Duke Energy Carolinas' compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the Senior Indenture, including the covenant described under "Negative Pledge." The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of all series under the Senior Indenture with respect to which a default has occurred and is continuing, voting as one class, may waive that default for all those series, except a default in the payment of principal or any premium or interest on any Senior Note or a default with respect to a covenant or provision which cannot be modified without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Senior Note of the series affected.

#### **Events of Default**

The following are events of default under the Senior Indenture with respect to any series of Senior Notes, unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement:

- failure to pay principal of or any premium on any Senior Note of that series when due;
- failure to pay when due any interest on any Senior Note of that series that continues for 60 days; for this purpose, the date on which interest is due is the date on which Duke Energy Carolinas is required to make payment following any deferral of interest payments by it under the terms of Senior Notes that permit such deferrals;
- failure to make any sinking fund payment when required for any Senior Note of that series that continues for 60 days;
- failure to perform any covenant in the Senior Indenture (other than a covenant expressly included solely for the benefit of other series) that continues for 90 days after the Senior Indenture Trustee or

the holders of at least 33% of the outstanding Senior Notes of that series give Duke Energy Carolinas written notice of the default; and

- certain bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization events with respect to Duke Energy Carolinas.

In the case of the fourth event of default listed above, the Senior Indenture Trustee may extend the grace period. In addition, if holders of a particular series have given a notice of default, then holders of at least the same percentage of Senior Notes of that series, together with the Senior Indenture Trustee, may also extend the grace period. The grace period will be automatically extended if Duke Energy Carolinas has initiated and is diligently pursuing corrective action.

Duke Energy Carolinas may establish additional events of default for a particular series and, if established, any such events of default will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If an event of default with respect to Senior Notes of a series occurs and is continuing, then the Senior Indenture Trustee or the holders of at least 33% in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of that series may declare the principal amount of all Senior Notes of that series to be immediately due and payable. However, that event of default will be considered waived at any time after the declaration, but before a judgment for payment of the money due has been obtained if:

- Duke Energy Carolinas has paid or deposited with the Senior Indenture Trustee all overdue interest, the principal and any premium due otherwise than by the declaration and any interest on such amounts, and any interest on overdue interest, to the extent legally permitted, in each case with respect to that series, and all amounts due to the Senior Indenture Trustee; and
- all events of default with respect to that series, other than the nonpayment of the principal that became due solely by virtue of the declaration, have been cured or waived.

The Senior Indenture Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers at the request or direction of any holders of Senior Notes unless those holders have offered the Senior Indenture Trustee security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities which it might incur as a result. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Senior Notes of any series have, with certain exceptions, the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the Senior Indenture Trustee or the exercise of any power of the Senior Indenture Trustee with respect to those Senior Notes. The Senior Indenture Trustee may withhold notice of any default, except a default in the payment of principal or interest, from the holders of any series if the Senior Indenture Trustee in good faith considers it in the interest of the holders to do so.

The holder of any Senior Note will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal, any premium and, within certain limitations, any interest on that Senior Note on its maturity date or redemption date and to enforce those payments.

Duke Energy Carolinas is required to furnish each year to the Senior Indenture Trustee a statement by certain of its officers to the effect that it is not in default under the Senior Indenture or, if there has been a default, specifying the default and its status.

#### **Payments; Paying Agent**

The paying agent will pay the principal of any Senior Notes only if those Senior Notes are surrendered to it. The paying agent will pay interest on Senior Notes issued as global securities by wire transfer to the holder of those global securities. Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the paying agent will pay interest on Senior Notes that are not in global form at its office or, at Duke Energy Carolinas' option:

- by wire transfer to an account at a banking institution in the United States that is designated in writing to the Senior Indenture Trustee at least 16 days prior to the date of payment by the person entitled to that interest; or
- by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to that interest as that address appears in the security register for those Senior Notes.

Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Senior Indenture Trustee will act as paying agent for that series of Senior Notes, and the principal corporate trust office of the Senior Indenture Trustee will be the office through which the paying agent acts. Duke Energy Carolinas may, however, change or add paying agents or approve a change in the office through which a paying agent acts.

Any money that Duke Energy Carolinas has paid to a paying agent for principal or interest on any Senior Notes which remains unclaimed at the end of two years after that principal or interest has become due will be repaid to Duke Energy Carolinas at its request. After repayment to Duke Energy Carolinas, holders should look only to Duke Energy Carolinas for those payments.

### **Negative Pledge**

While any of the Senior Notes remain outstanding, Duke Energy Carolinas will not create, or permit to be created or to exist, any mortgage, lien, pledge, security interest or other encumbrance upon any of its property, whether owned on or acquired after the date of the Senior Indenture, to secure any indebtedness for borrowed money of Duke Energy Carolinas, unless the Senior Notes then outstanding are equally and ratably secured for so long as any such indebtedness is so secured.

The foregoing restriction does not apply with respect to, among other things:

- purchase money mortgages, or other purchase money liens, pledges, security interests or encumbrances upon property that Duke Energy Carolinas acquired after the date of the Senior Indenture;
- mortgages, liens, pledges, security interests or other encumbrances existing on any property at the time Duke Energy Carolinas acquired it, including those which exist on any property of an entity with which Duke Energy Carolinas is consolidated or merged or which transfers or leases all or substantially all of its properties to Duke Energy Carolinas;
- mortgages, liens, pledges, security interests or other encumbrances upon any property of Duke Energy Carolinas that existed on the date of the initial issuance of the Senior Notes;
- pledges or deposits to secure performance in connection with bids, tenders, contracts (other than contracts for the payment of money) or leases to which Duke Energy Carolinas is a party;
- liens created by or resulting from any litigation or proceeding which at the time is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings;
- liens incurred in connection with the issuance of bankers' acceptances and lines of credit, bankers' liens or rights of offset and any security given in the ordinary course of business to banks or others to secure any indebtedness payable on demand or maturing within 12 months of the date that such indebtedness is originally incurred;
- liens incurred in connection with repurchase, swap or other similar agreements (including commodity price, currency exchange and interest rate protection agreements);
- liens securing industrial revenue or pollution control bonds;
- liens, pledges, security interests or other encumbrances on any property arising in connection with any defeasance, covenant defeasance or in-substance defeasance of indebtedness of Duke Energy Carolinas;
- liens created in connection with, and created to secure, a non-recourse obligation;
- Bonds issued or to be issued from time to time under Duke Energy Carolinas' First and Refunding Mortgage, and the "permitted liens" specified in Duke Energy Carolinas' First and Refunding Mortgage;
- indebtedness which Duke Energy Carolinas may issue in connection with its consolidation or merger with or into any other entity, which may be its affiliate, in exchange for or otherwise in substitution for secured indebtedness of that entity, or Third Party Debt, which by its terms (1) is secured by a mortgage on all or a portion of the property of that entity, (2) prohibits that entity from incurring

secured indebtedness, unless the Third Party Debt is secured equally and ratably with such secured indebtedness or (3) prohibits that entity from incurring secured indebtedness;

- indebtedness of any entity which Duke Energy Carolinas is required to assume in connection with a consolidation or merger of that entity, with respect to which any property of Duke Energy Carolinas is subjected to a mortgage, lien, pledge, security interest or other encumbrance;
- mortgages, liens, pledges, security interests or other encumbrances upon any property that Duke Energy Carolinas acquired, constructed, developed or improved after the date of the Senior Indenture which are created before, at the time of, or within 18 months after such acquisition—or in the case of property constructed, developed or improved, after the completion of the construction, development or improvement and commencement of full commercial operation of that property, whichever is later—to secure or provide for the payment of any part of its purchase price or cost; provided that, in the case of such construction, development or improvement, the mortgages, liens, pledges, security interests or other encumbrances shall not apply to any property that Duke Energy Carolinas owns other than real property that is unimproved up to that time; and
- the replacement, extension or renewal of any mortgage, lien, pledge, security interest or other encumbrance described above; or the replacement, extension or renewal (not exceeding the principal amount of indebtedness so secured together with any premium, interest, fee or expense payable in connection with any such replacement, extension or renewal) of the indebtedness so secured; provided that such replacement, extension or renewal is limited to all or a part of the same property that secured the mortgage, lien, pledge, security interest or other encumbrance replaced, extended or renewed, plus improvements on it or additions or accessions to it.

In addition, Duke Energy Carolinas may create or assume any other mortgage, lien, pledge, security interest or other encumbrance not excepted in the Senior Indenture without Duke Energy Carolinas equally and ratably securing the Senior Notes, if immediately after that creation or assumption, the principal amount of indebtedness for borrowed money of Duke Energy Carolinas that all such other mortgages, liens, pledges, security interests and other encumbrances secure does not exceed an amount equal to 10% of Duke Energy Carolinas' common stockholders' equity as shown on its consolidated balance sheet for the accounting period occurring immediately before the creation or assumption of that mortgage, lien, pledge, security interest or other encumbrance.

#### **Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

Upon the written request of Duke Energy Carolinas, the Senior Indenture shall be satisfied and discharged (except as to certain surviving rights and obligations specified in the Senior Indenture) when:

- either all Senior Notes have been delivered to the Senior Indenture Trustee for cancellation or all Senior Notes not delivered to the Senior Indenture Trustee for cancellation are due and payable within one year (at maturity or due to redemption) and Duke Energy Carolinas has deposited with the Senior Indenture Trustee money or government obligations sufficient to pay and discharge such Senior Notes to the applicable maturity or redemption date (including principal, any premium and interest thereon);
- Duke Energy Carolinas has paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable under the Senior Indenture by Duke Energy Carolinas; and
- Duke Energy Carolinas has delivered to the Senior Indenture Trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel stating that all conditions precedent relating to the satisfaction and discharge of the Senior Indenture have been complied with.

The Senior Indenture provides that Duke Energy Carolinas may be:

- discharged from its obligations, with certain limited exceptions, with respect to any series of Senior Notes, as described in the Senior Indenture, such a discharge being called a "defeasance" in this prospectus; and
- released from its obligations under certain restrictive covenants especially established with respect to any series of Senior Notes, including the covenant described under "Negative Pledge," as described in the Senior Indenture, such a release being called a "covenant defeasance" in this prospectus.

Duke Energy Carolinas must satisfy certain conditions to effect a defeasance or covenant defeasance. Those conditions include the irrevocable deposit with the Senior Indenture Trustee, in trust, of money or government obligations which through their scheduled payments of principal and interest would provide sufficient money to pay the principal and any premium and interest on those Senior Notes on the maturity dates of those payments or upon redemption.

Following a defeasance, payment of the Senior Notes defeased may not be accelerated because of an event of default under the Senior Indenture. Following a covenant defeasance, the payment of Senior Notes may not be accelerated by reference to the covenants from which Duke Energy Carolinas has been released. A defeasance may occur after a covenant defeasance.

Under current United States federal income tax laws, a defeasance would be treated as an exchange of the relevant Senior Notes in which holders of those Senior Notes might recognize gain or loss. In addition, the amount, timing and character of amounts that holders would thereafter be required to include in income might be different from that which would be includible in the absence of that defeasance. Duke Energy Carolinas urges investors to consult their own tax advisors as to the specific consequences of a defeasance, including the applicability and effect of tax laws other than United States federal income tax laws.

Under current United States federal income tax law, unless accompanied by other changes in the terms of the Senior Notes, a covenant defeasance should not be treated as a taxable exchange.

#### **Concerning the Senior Indenture Trustee**

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. is the Senior Indenture Trustee and is also the trustee under Duke Energy Carolinas' Subordinated Indenture and is the trustee under Duke Energy Carolinas' First and Refunding Mortgage. Duke Energy Carolinas and certain of its affiliates have banking relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. or its affiliate also serve as trustee or agent under other indentures and agreements pursuant to which securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and of certain of its affiliates are outstanding.

The Senior Indenture Trustee will perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in the Senior Indenture unless an event of default under the Senior Indenture occurs and is continuing. In case an event of default occurs and is continuing, the Senior Indenture Trustee will exercise the same degree of care as a prudent individual would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Upon any application by Duke Energy Carolinas to the Senior Indenture Trustee to take any action under any provision of the Indenture, Duke Energy Carolinas is required to furnish to the Senior Indenture Trustee such certificates and opinions as may be required under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF SUBORDINATED NOTES**

Duke Energy Carolinas will issue the Subordinated Notes in one or more series under its Subordinated Indenture dated as of December 1, 1997, as supplemented from time to time (the "Subordinated Indenture"). Unless otherwise specified, the trustee under the Subordinated Indenture (the "Subordinated Indenture Trustee") will be The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. The Subordinated Indenture is an exhibit to the registration statement, of which this prospectus is a part.

The Subordinated Notes are unsecured obligations of Duke Energy Carolinas and are junior in right of payment to "Senior Indebtedness" (as defined herein) of Duke Energy Carolinas. You will find a description of the subordination provisions of the Subordinated Notes, including a description of Senior Indebtedness of Duke Energy Carolinas, under "Subordination."

The following description of the Subordinated Notes is only a summary and is not intended to be comprehensive. For additional information you should refer to the Subordinated Indenture.

#### **General**

The Subordinated Indenture does not limit the amount of Subordinated Notes that Duke Energy Carolinas may issue under it. Duke Energy Carolinas may issue Subordinated Notes from time to time under the Subordinated Indenture in one or more series by entering into supplemental indentures or by its

Board of Directors or a duly authorized committee authorizing the issuance. Duke Energy Carolinas may at any time deliver executed Subordinated Notes to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee for authentication, and the Subordinated Indenture Trustee shall authenticate such Subordinated Notes upon the written request of Duke Energy Carolinas and satisfaction of certain other conditions set forth in the Subordinated Indenture.

The Subordinated Notes of a series need not be issued at the same time, bear interest at the same rate or mature on the same date.

The Subordinated Indenture does not protect the holders of Subordinated Notes if Duke Energy Carolinas engages in a highly leveraged transaction.

#### **Provisions Applicable to Particular Series**

The prospectus supplement for a particular series of Subordinated Notes being offered will disclose the specific terms related to the offering, including the price or prices at which the Subordinated Notes to be offered will be issued. Those terms may include some or all of the following:

- the title of the series;
- the total principal amount of the Subordinated Notes of the series;
- the date or dates on which principal is payable or the method for determining the date or dates, and any right that Duke Energy Carolinas has to change the date on which principal is payable;
- the interest rate or rates, if any, or the method for determining the rate or rates, and the date or dates from which interest will accrue;
- any interest payment dates and the regular record date for the interest payable on each interest payment date, if any;
- whether Duke Energy Carolinas may extend the interest payment periods and, if so, the terms of the extension;
- the place or places where payments will be made;
- whether Duke Energy Carolinas has the option to redeem the Subordinated Notes and, if so, the terms of its redemption option;
- any obligation that Duke Energy Carolinas has to redeem the Subordinated Notes through a sinking fund or to purchase the Subordinated Notes through a purchase fund or at the option of the holder;
- whether the defeasance and covenant defeasance provisions described under “Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance” will not apply to the Subordinated Notes;
- the currency in which payments will be made if other than U.S. dollars, and the manner of determining the equivalent of those amounts in U.S. dollars;
- if payments may be made, at Duke Energy Carolinas’ election or at the holder’s election, in a currency other than that in which the Subordinated Notes are stated to be payable, then the currency in which those payments may be made, the terms and conditions of the election and the manner of determining those amounts;
- the portion of the principal payable upon acceleration of maturity, if other than the entire principal;
- whether the Subordinated Notes will be issuable as global securities and, if so, the securities depositary;
- any changes in the events of default or covenants with respect to the Subordinated Notes;
- any index or formula used for determining principal, premium or interest;
- if the principal payable on the maturity date will not be determinable on one or more dates prior to the maturity date, the amount which will be deemed to be such principal amount or the manner of determining it;



- the subordination of the Subordinated Notes to any other of Duke Energy Carolinas' indebtedness, including other series of Subordinated Notes;
- any date or dates after which the holder may convert the Subordinated Notes into other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and the terms for that conversion;
- any date or dates upon which the Subordinated Notes will be mandatorily converted into other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and the terms for that conversion;
- any terms for the attachment to Subordinated Notes of rights to purchase or sell other securities of Duke Energy Carolinas; and
- any other terms.

Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, Duke Energy Carolinas will issue the Subordinated Notes only in fully registered form without coupons, and there will be no service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange of the Subordinated Notes. Duke Energy Carolinas may, however, require payment to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with any transfer or exchange. Subject to the terms of the Subordinated Indenture and the limitations applicable to global securities, transfers and exchanges of the Subordinated Notes may be made at The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., 240 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10286 or at any other office maintained by Duke Energy Carolinas for such purpose.

The Subordinated Notes will be issuable in denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000, unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Duke Energy Carolinas may offer and sell the Subordinated Notes, including original issue discount Subordinated Notes, at a substantial discount below their principal amount. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe special United States federal income tax and any other considerations applicable to those securities. In addition, the applicable prospectus supplement may describe certain special United States federal income tax or other considerations, if any, applicable to any Subordinated Notes that are denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

### **Redemption**

Provisions relating to the redemption of Subordinated Notes will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, Duke Energy Carolinas may redeem Subordinated Notes only upon notice mailed at least 30, but not more than 60 days before the date fixed for redemption.

Duke Energy Carolinas will not be required to:

- issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any Subordinated Notes of a series during the period beginning 15 days before the date the notice is mailed identifying the Subordinated Notes of that series that have been selected for redemption; or
- register the transfer of or exchange any Subordinated Note of that series selected for redemption except the unredeemed portion of a Subordinated Note being partially redeemed.

### **Consolidation, Merger, Conveyance or Transfer**

The Subordinated Indenture provides that Duke Energy Carolinas may consolidate or merge with or into, or convey or transfer all or substantially all of its properties and assets to, another corporation or other entity. Any successor must, however, assume Duke Energy Carolinas' obligations under the Subordinated Indenture and the Subordinated Notes and Duke Energy Carolinas must deliver to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee a statement by certain of its officers and an opinion of counsel that affirm compliance with all conditions in the Subordinated Indenture relating to the transaction. When those conditions are satisfied, the successor will succeed to and be substituted for Duke Energy Carolinas under the Subordinated Indenture, and Duke Energy Carolinas will be relieved of its obligations under the Subordinated Indenture and any Subordinated Notes.

**Modification; Waiver**

Duke Energy Carolinas may modify the Subordinated Indenture with the consent of the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Subordinated Notes of all series that are affected by the modification, voting as one class. The consent of the holder of each outstanding Subordinated Note affected is, however, required to:

- change the maturity date of the principal or any installment of principal or interest on that Subordinated Note;
- reduce the principal amount, the interest rate or any premium payable upon redemption of that Subordinated Note;
- reduce the amount of principal due and payable upon acceleration of maturity;
- change the currency of payment of principal, premium or interest on that Subordinated Note;
- impair the right to institute suit to enforce any such payment on or after the maturity date or redemption date;
- reduce the percentage in principal amount of Subordinated Notes of any series required to modify the Subordinated Indenture, waive compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the Subordinated Indenture or waive certain defaults; or
- with certain exceptions, modify the provisions of the Subordinated Indenture governing modifications of the Subordinated Indenture or governing waiver of covenants or past defaults.

In addition, Duke Energy Carolinas may modify the Subordinated Indenture for certain other purposes, without the consent of any holders of Subordinated Notes.

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Subordinated Notes of any series may waive, for that series, Duke Energy Carolinas' compliance with certain restrictive provisions of the Subordinated Indenture. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Subordinated Notes of all series under the Subordinated Indenture with respect to which a default has occurred and is continuing, voting as one class, may waive that default for all those series, except a default in the payment of principal or any premium or interest on any Subordinated Note or a default with respect to a covenant or provision which cannot be modified without the consent of the holder of each outstanding Subordinated Note of the series affected.

Duke Energy Carolinas may not amend the Subordinated Indenture to change the subordination of any outstanding Subordinated Notes without the consent of each holder of Senior Indebtedness that the amendment would adversely affect.

**Events of Default**

The following are events of default under the Subordinated Indenture with respect to any series of Subordinated Notes, unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement:

- failure to pay principal of or any premium on any Subordinated Note of that series when due;
- failure to pay when due any interest on any Subordinated Note of that series that continues for 60 days; for this purpose, the date on which interest is due is the date on which Duke Energy Carolinas is required to make payment following any deferral of interest payments by it under the terms of Subordinated Notes that permit such deferrals;
- failure to make any sinking fund payment when required for any Subordinated Note of that series that continues for 60 days;
- failure to perform any covenant in the Subordinated Indenture (other than a covenant expressly included solely for the benefit of other series) that continues for 90 days after the Subordinated Indenture Trustee or the holders of at least 33% of the outstanding Subordinated Notes of that series give Duke Energy Carolinas written notice of the default; and
- certain bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization events with respect to Duke Energy Carolinas.

In the case of the fourth event of default listed above, the Subordinated Indenture Trustee may extend the grace period. In addition, if holders of a particular series have given a notice of default, then holders of at least the same percentage of Subordinated Notes of that series, together with the Subordinated Indenture Trustee, may also extend the grace period. The grace period will be automatically extended if Duke Energy Carolinas has initiated and is diligently pursuing corrective action.

Duke Energy Carolinas may establish additional events of default for a particular series and, if established, any such events of default will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If an event of default with respect to Subordinated Notes of a series occurs and is continuing, then the Subordinated Indenture Trustee or the holders of at least 33% in principal amount of the outstanding Subordinated Notes of that series may declare the principal amount of all Subordinated Notes of that series to be immediately due and payable. However, that event of default will be considered waived at any time after the declaration but before a judgment for payment of the money due has been obtained if:

- Duke Energy Carolinas has paid or deposited with the Subordinated Indenture Trustee all overdue interest, the principal and any premium due otherwise than by the declaration and any interest on such amounts, and any interest on overdue interest, to the extent legally permitted, in each case with respect to that series, and all amounts due to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee; and
- all events of default with respect to that series, other than the nonpayment of the principal that became due solely by virtue of the declaration, have been cured or waived.

The Subordinated Indenture Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers at the request or direction of any holders of Subordinated Notes unless those holders have offered the Subordinated Indenture Trustee security or indemnity against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur as a result. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding Subordinated Notes of any series have, with certain exceptions, the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee or the exercise of any power of the Subordinated Indenture Trustee with respect to those Subordinated Notes. The Subordinated Indenture Trustee may withhold notice of any default, except a default in the payment of principal or interest, from the holders of any series if the Subordinated Indenture Trustee in good faith considers it in the interest of the holders to do so.

The holder of any Subordinated Note will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal, any premium and, within certain limitations, any interest on that Subordinated Note on its maturity date or redemption date and to enforce those payments.

Duke Energy Carolinas is required to furnish each year to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee a statement by certain of its officers to the effect that it is not in default under the Subordinated Indenture or, if there has been a default, specifying the default and its status.

#### **Payments; Paying Agent**

The paying agent will pay the principal of any Subordinated Notes only if those Subordinated Notes are surrendered to it. The paying agent will pay interest on Subordinated Notes issued as global securities by wire transfer to the holder of those global securities. Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the paying agent will pay interest on Subordinated Notes that are not in global form at its office or, at Duke Energy Carolinas' option:

- by wire transfer to an account at a banking institution in the United States that is designated in writing to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee at least 16 days prior to the date of payment by the person entitled to that interest; or
- by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to that interest as that address appears in the security register for those Subordinated Notes.

Unless Duke Energy Carolinas states otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Subordinated Indenture Trustee will act as paying agent for that series of Subordinated Notes, and the principal corporate trust office of the Subordinated Indenture Trustee will be the office through which the

paying agent acts. Duke Energy Carolinas may, however, change or add paying agents or approve a change in the office through which a paying agent acts.

Any money that Duke Energy Carolinas has paid to a paying agent for principal or interest on any Subordinated Notes that remains unclaimed at the end of two years after that principal or interest has become due will be repaid to Duke Energy Carolinas at its request. After repayment to Duke Energy Carolinas, holders should look only to Duke Energy Carolinas for those payments.

#### **Satisfaction and Discharge; Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

Upon the written request of Duke Energy Carolinas, the Subordinated Indenture shall be satisfied and discharged (except as to certain surviving rights and obligations specified in the Subordinated Indenture) when:

- either all Subordinated Notes have been delivered to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee for cancellation or all Subordinated Notes not delivered to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee for cancellation are due and payable within one year (at maturity or due to redemption) and Duke Energy Carolinas has deposited with the Subordinated Indenture Trustee money or government obligations sufficient to pay and discharge such Subordinated Notes to the applicable maturity or redemption date (including principal, any premium and interest thereon);
- Duke Energy Carolinas has paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable under the Subordinated Indenture by Duke Energy Carolinas; and
- Duke Energy Carolinas has delivered to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel stating that all conditions precedent relating to the satisfaction and discharge of the Subordinated Indenture have been complied with.

The Subordinated Indenture provides that Duke Energy Carolinas may be:

- discharged from its obligations, with certain limited exceptions, with respect to any series of Subordinated Notes, as described in the Subordinated Indenture, such a discharge being called a "defeasance" in this prospectus; and
- released from its obligations under certain restrictive covenants especially established with respect to a series of Subordinated Notes, as described in the Subordinated Indenture, such a release being called a "covenant defeasance" in this prospectus.

Duke Energy Carolinas must satisfy certain conditions to effect a defeasance or covenant defeasance. Those conditions include the irrevocable deposit with the Subordinated Indenture Trustee, in trust, of money or government obligations which through their scheduled payments of principal and interest would provide sufficient money to pay the principal and any premium and interest on those Subordinated Notes on the maturity dates of those payments or upon redemption. Following a defeasance, payment of the Subordinated Notes defeased may not be accelerated because of an event of default under the Subordinated Indenture.

Under current United States federal income tax laws, a defeasance would be treated as an exchange of the relevant Subordinated Notes in which holders of those Subordinated Notes might recognize gain or loss. In addition, the amount, timing and character of amounts that holders would thereafter be required to include in income might be different from that which would be includible in the absence of that defeasance. Duke Energy Carolinas urges investors to consult their own tax advisors as to the specific consequences of a defeasance, including the applicability and effect of tax laws other than United States federal income tax laws.

Under current United States federal income tax law, unless accompanied by other changes in the terms of the Subordinated Notes, a covenant defeasance should not be treated as a taxable exchange.

#### **Subordination**

Each series of Subordinated Notes will be subordinate and junior in right of payment, to the extent set forth in the Subordinated Indenture, to all Senior Indebtedness as defined below. If:

- Duke Energy Carolinas makes a payment or distribution of any of its assets to creditors upon its dissolution, winding-up, liquidation or reorganization, whether in bankruptcy, insolvency or otherwise;
- a default beyond any grace period has occurred and is continuing with respect to the payment of principal, interest or any other monetary amounts due and payable on any Senior Indebtedness; or
- the maturity of any Senior Indebtedness has been accelerated because of a default on that Senior Indebtedness,

then the holders of Senior Indebtedness generally will have the right to receive payment, in the case of the first instance, of all amounts due or to become due upon that Senior Indebtedness, and, in the case of the second and third instances, of all amounts due on the Senior Indebtedness, or Duke Energy Carolinas will make provision for those payments, before the holders of any Subordinated Notes have the right to receive any payments of principal or interest on their Subordinated Notes.

“*Senior Indebtedness*” means, with respect to any series of Subordinated Notes, the principal, premium, interest and any other payment in respect of any of the following:

- all of Duke Energy Carolinas’ indebtedness that is evidenced by notes, debentures, bonds or other securities Duke Energy Carolinas sells for money or other obligations for money borrowed;
- all indebtedness of others of the kinds described in the preceding category which Duke Energy Carolinas has assumed or guaranteed or which Duke Energy Carolinas has in effect guaranteed through an agreement to purchase, contingent or otherwise; and
- all renewals, extensions or refundings of indebtedness of the kinds described in either of the preceding two categories.

Any such indebtedness, renewal, extension or refunding, however, will not be Senior Indebtedness if the instrument creating or evidencing it or the assumption or guarantee of it provides that it is not superior in right of payment to or is equal in right of payment with those Subordinated Notes. Senior Indebtedness will be entitled to the benefits of the subordination provisions in the Subordinated Indenture irrespective of the amendment, modification or waiver of any term of the Senior Indebtedness.

Future series of Subordinated Notes that are not Subordinated Notes may rank senior to outstanding series of Subordinated Notes and would constitute Senior Indebtedness with respect to those series.

The Subordinated Indenture does not limit the amount of Senior Indebtedness that Duke Energy Carolinas may issue.

#### **Concerning the Subordinated Indenture Trustee**

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. is the Subordinated Indenture Trustee and is also the Senior Indenture Trustee, and is the trustee under Duke Energy Carolinas’ First and Refunding Mortgage. Duke Energy Carolinas and certain of its affiliates have banking relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. or its affiliate also serve as trustee or agent under other indentures and agreements pursuant to which securities of Duke Energy Carolinas and of certain of its affiliates are outstanding.

The Subordinated Indenture Trustee will perform only those duties that are specifically set forth in the Subordinated Indenture unless an event of default under the Subordinated Indenture occurs and is continuing. In case an event of default occurs and is continuing, the Subordinated Indenture Trustee will exercise the same degree of care as a prudent individual would exercise in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Upon any application by Duke Energy Carolinas to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee to take any action under any provision of the Indenture, Duke Energy Carolinas is required to furnish to the Subordinated Indenture Trustee such certificates and opinions as may be required under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.

#### **GLOBAL SECURITIES**

Duke Energy Carolinas may issue some or all of the First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Senior Notes and Subordinated Notes as book-entry securities. Any such book-entry securities will be represented

by one or more fully registered global securities. Duke Energy Carolinas will register each global security with or on behalf of a securities depository identified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each global security will be deposited with the securities depository or its nominee or a custodian for the securities depository.

As long as the securities depository or its nominee is the registered holder of a global security representing securities described in this prospectus, that person will be considered the sole owner and holder of the global security and the securities it represents for all purposes. Except in limited circumstances, owners of beneficial interests in a global security:

- may not have the global security or any securities it represents registered in their names;
- may not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificated securities in exchange for the global security; and
- will not be considered the owners or holders of the global security or any securities it represents for any purposes under the applicable securities or the related mortgage or indenture.

Duke Energy Carolinas will make all payments of principal and any premium and interest on a global security to the securities depository or its nominee as the holder of the global security. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global security.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be limited to institutions having accounts with the securities depository or its nominee, which are called “participants” in this discussion, and to persons that hold beneficial interests through participants. When a global security representing securities described in this prospectus is issued, the securities depository will credit on its book entry, registration and transfer system the principal amounts of securities the global security represents to the accounts of its participants. Ownership of beneficial interests in a global security will be shown only on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by:

- the securities depository, with respect to participants’ interests; and
- any participant, with respect to interests the participant holds on behalf of other persons.

Payments participants make to owners of beneficial interests held through those participants will be the responsibility of those participants. The securities depository may from time to time adopt various policies and procedures governing payments, transfers, exchanges and other matters relating to beneficial interests in a global security. None of the following will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the securities depository’s or any participant’s records relating to beneficial interests in a global security representing securities described in this prospectus, for payments made on account of those beneficial interests or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to those beneficial interests:

- Duke Energy Carolinas;
- the applicable trustee; or
- an agent of either of them.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell securities to one or more underwriters or dealers for public offering and sale by them, or we may sell the securities to investors directly or through agents. The prospectus supplement relating to the securities being offered will set forth the terms of the offering and the method of distribution and will identify any firms acting as underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering, including:

- the name or names of any underwriters;
- the purchase price of the securities and the proceeds to us from the sale;
- any underwriting discounts and other items constituting underwriters’ compensation;
- any public offering price;



- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and
- any securities exchange or market on which the securities may be listed.

Only those underwriters identified in the prospectus supplement are deemed to be underwriters in connection with the securities offered in the prospectus supplement.

We may distribute the securities from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at prices determined as the prospectus supplement specifies. We may sell securities through forward contracts or similar arrangements. In connection with the sale of securities, underwriters, dealers or agents may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and also may receive commissions from securities purchasers for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent.

We may sell the securities directly or through agents we designate from time to time. Any agent involved in the offer or sale of the securities covered by this prospectus will be named in a prospectus supplement relating to such securities. Commissions payable by us to agents will be set forth in a prospectus supplement relating to the securities being offered. Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, any such agents will be acting on a best-efforts basis for the period of their appointment.

Some of the underwriters, dealers or agents and some of their affiliates who participate in the securities distribution may engage in other transactions with, and perform other services for, us and our subsidiaries or affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

Any underwriting or other compensation which we pay to underwriters or agents in connection with the securities offering, and any discounts, concessions or commissions which underwriters allow to dealers, will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the securities distribution may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commissions they receive and any profit they realize on the resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Underwriters, and their controlling persons, and agents may be entitled, under agreements we enter into with them, to indemnification against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

#### EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's Annual Report on Form 10-K have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

#### VALIDITY OF THE SECURITIES

Robert T. Lucas III, Esq., who is Deputy General Counsel of Duke Energy Business Services LLC, the service company affiliate of Duke Energy Carolinas, and/or counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement, will issue an opinion about the validity of the securities we are offering in the applicable prospectus supplement. Counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement will pass upon certain legal matters on behalf of any underwriters.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and, in accordance therewith, file annual, quarterly and current reports and other information with the SEC. Our filings with the SEC, as well as additional information about us, are available to the public through Duke Energy's website at <http://www.duke-energy.com> and are made available as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is filed with or furnished to the SEC. The information on Duke Energy Corporation's website is not a part of this prospectus. Our filings are also available to the public through the SEC website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC allows us to “incorporate by reference” into this prospectus the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents incorporated in the prospectus at the time the registration statement became effective and all later documents filed with the SEC, in all cases as updated and superseded by later filings with the SEC. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future documents filed by Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, until the offering is completed.

- [Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2018](#);
- Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended [March 31, 2019](#) and [June 30, 2019](#); and
- Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on [March 21, 2019](#), [April 1, 2019](#) and [August 14, 2019](#).

We, our parent company, Duke Energy Corporation, and certain of its other subsidiaries separately filed the combined Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q listed above. We do not intend to incorporate by reference into this prospectus the information relating to Duke Energy Corporation and its subsidiaries (other than Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and its consolidated subsidiaries), and we make no representation as to the information relating to Duke Energy Corporation and its subsidiaries (other than Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC and its consolidated subsidiaries) contained in such combined reports.

We will provide you without charge a copy of these filings, other than any exhibits unless the exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into this prospectus. You may request a copy by writing us at the following address or telephoning one of the following numbers:

Investor Relations Department  
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
P.O. Box 1005  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28201  
(704) 382-3853 or (800) 488-3853 (toll-free)

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell the securities described in this prospectus in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained in the prospectus is accurate only as of its date. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.



EX-99.1 4 tm2110089d4\_ex99-1.htm EXHIBIT 99.1

Exhibit 99.1

*Execution Version***DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC****FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS,  
\$550,000,000 2.55% SERIES DUE 2031  
\$450,000,000 3.45% SERIES DUE 2051*****UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT***

March 29, 2021

BNP Paribas Securities Corp.  
787 Seventh Avenue  
New York, New York 10019

BofA Securities, Inc.  
One Bryant Park  
New York, NY 10036

Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC  
Eleven Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10010

J.P. Morgan Securities LLC  
383 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10179

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC  
1585 Broadway  
New York, New York 10036

Truist Securities, Inc.  
3333 Peachtree Road, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30326

As Representatives of the several Underwriters

Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. *Introductory.* DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company (the “**Company**”), proposes, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein, to issue and sell (i) \$550,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the Company’s First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031 (the “**2031 Bonds**”) and (ii) \$450,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the Company’s First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051 (the “**2051 Bonds**”) and together with the 2031 Bonds, the “**Bonds**”) to be issued under and secured by a First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1927 (the “**Original Mortgage**”), between the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor trustee (the “**Trustee**”), as amended and supplemented by various supplemental indentures, including the One-hundred and fifth Supplemental Indenture, to be dated as of April 1, 2021 (the “**Supplemental Indenture**”) (the Original Mortgage, as so amended and supplemented, being hereinafter called the “**Mortgage**”). BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Truist Securities, Inc. (the “**Representatives**”) are acting as representatives of the several underwriters named in Schedule A hereto (together with the Representatives, the “**Underwriters**”). The Company understands that the several Underwriters propose to offer the Bonds for sale upon the terms and conditions contemplated by (i) this Agreement and (ii) the Base Prospectus, the Preliminary Prospectus and any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus (each as defined below) issued at or prior to the Applicable Time (as defined below) (the documents referred to in the foregoing subclause (ii) are referred to herein as the “**Pricing Disclosure Package**”).



2. *Representations and Warranties of the Company.* As of the date hereof, as of the Applicable Time (as defined below) and as of the Closing Date (as defined below) the Company represents and warrants to, and agrees with, the several Underwriters that:

- (a) A registration statement (No. 333-233896-06), including a prospectus, relating to the Bonds and certain other securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “**Commission**”) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “**1933 Act**”). Such registration statement and any post-effective amendment thereto, each in the form heretofore delivered to you, became effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462 of the rules and regulations of the Commission under the 1933 Act (the “**1933 Act Regulations**”), and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of such registration statement has been issued and no proceeding for that purpose or pursuant to Section 8A of the 1933 Act has been initiated or threatened by the Commission (if prepared, any preliminary prospectus supplement specifically relating to the Bonds immediately prior to the Applicable Time included in such registration statement or filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) of the 1933 Act Regulations being hereinafter called a “**Preliminary Prospectus**”); the term “**Registration Statement**” means the registration statement as deemed revised pursuant to Rule 430B(f)(1) of the 1933 Act Regulations on the date of such registration statement’s effectiveness for purposes of Section 11 of the 1933 Act, as such section applies to the Company and the Underwriters for the Bonds pursuant to Rule 430B(f)(2) of the 1933 Act Regulations (the “**Effective Date**”), including all exhibits thereto and including the documents incorporated by reference in the prospectus contained in the Registration Statement at the time such part of the Registration Statement became effective; the term “**Base Prospectus**” means the prospectus filed with the Commission on the date hereof by the Company; and the term “**Prospectus**” means the Base Prospectus together with the prospectus supplement specifically relating to the Bonds prepared in accordance with the provisions of Rule 430B and promptly filed after execution and delivery of this Agreement pursuant to Rule 430B or Rule 424(b) of the 1933 Act Regulations; any information included in such Prospectus that was omitted from the Registration Statement at the time it became effective but that is deemed to be a part of and included in such registration statement pursuant to Rule 430B is referred to as “**Rule 430B Information**,” and any reference herein to the Registration Statement, the Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to and include the documents incorporated by reference therein, prior to the date hereof; any reference to any amendment or supplement to any Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus shall be deemed to refer to and include any documents filed after the date of such Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus, as the case may be, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “**1934 Act**”), and incorporated by reference in such Preliminary Prospectus or Prospectus, as the case may be; and any reference to any amendment to the Registration Statement shall be deemed to refer to and include any annual report of the Company filed pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the 1934 Act after the effective date of the Registration Statement that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement. For purposes of this Agreement, the term “**Applicable Time**” means 3:00 p.m. (New York City time) on the date hereof.



- (b) The Registration Statement, the Permitted Free Writing Prospectus specified on Schedule B hereto, the Preliminary Prospectus and the Prospectus conform, and any amendments or supplements thereto will conform, in all material respects to the requirements of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations; and (i) the Registration Statement, as of its original effective date, as of the date of any amendment, at each deemed effective date with respect to the Underwriters pursuant to Rule 430B(f)(2) of the 1933 Act Regulations, and at the Closing Date, did not and will not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, and (ii) (A) the Pricing Disclosure Package, as of the Applicable Time, did not, (B) the Prospectus and any amendment or supplement thereto, as of their dates, will not, and (C) the Prospectus as of the Closing Date will not, include any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, except that the Company makes no warranty or representation to the Underwriters with respect to any statements or omissions made in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by the Representatives on behalf of the Underwriters specifically for use in the Registration Statement, the Permitted Free Writing Prospectus, the Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus.
- (c) Any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus specified on Schedule B hereto as of its issue date and at all subsequent times through the completion of the public offer and sale of the Bonds or until any earlier date that the Company notified or notifies the Underwriters pursuant to Section 5(f) hereof did not, does not and will not include any information that conflicts with the information (not superseded or modified as of the Effective Date) contained in the Registration Statement, the Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus.

- (d) At the earliest time the Company or another offering participant made a bona fide offer (within the meaning of Rule 164(h)(2) of the 1933 Act Regulations) of the Bonds, the Company was not an “ineligible issuer” as defined in Rule 405 of the 1933 Act Regulations. The Company is, and was at the time of the initial filing of the Registration Statement, eligible to use Form S-3 under the 1933 Act.
- (e) The documents and interactive data in eXtensible Business Reporting Language (“XBRL”) incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, at the time they were filed or hereafter are filed with the Commission, complied and will comply in all material respects with the requirements of the 1934 Act and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder (the “**1934 Act Regulations**”), and, when read together with the other information in the Prospectus, (i) at the time the Registration Statement became effective, (ii) at the Applicable Time and (iii) on the Closing Date did not, and will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.
- (f) The Company’s most recent Annual Report filed on Form 10-K meets the conditions specified in General Instruction I(1)(a) and (b) of the General Instructions for Form 10-K.
- (g) The compliance by the Company with all of the provisions of this Agreement has been duly authorized by all necessary limited liability company action and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated will not conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other agreement or instrument to which the Company is a party or by which it is bound or to which any of its properties or assets is subject that would have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition or results of operations of the Company, nor will such action result in any violation of the provisions of the Company’s Articles of Organization, the Company’s Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement or other governing document of the Company or any statute or any order, rule or regulation of any court or governmental agency or body having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its properties that would have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition or results of operations of the Company; and no consent, approval, authorization, order, registration or qualification of or with any such court or governmental agency or body is required for the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, except for authorization by the North Carolina Utilities Commission and the Public Service Commission of South Carolina and the registration under the 1933 Act of the Bonds, qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the “**1939 Act**”) and such consents, approvals, authorizations, registrations or qualifications as may be required under state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Bonds by the Underwriters.

- (h) This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.
- (i) The Original Mortgage has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and duly qualified under the 1939 Act and the Supplemental Indenture has been duly authorized and when executed and delivered by the Company and, assuming the due authorization, execution and delivery thereof by the Trustee, the Mortgage constitutes a valid and legally binding instrument of the Company enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, subject to the qualifications that the enforceability of the Company's obligations under the Mortgage may be limited by (x) the laws of the states of North Carolina and South Carolina (in which states all physical property of the Company subject to the Mortgage is located except for certain interconnection lines) with respect to or affecting the remedies to enforce the security provided by the Mortgage, which laws do not make inadequate the remedies necessary for the realization of the benefits of such security, and by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws relating to or affecting mortgagees' and other creditors' rights generally, and by general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law), and (y) that the provisions of the Mortgage subjecting to the lien thereof the revenues and income from the mortgaged property may not be effective prior to the delivery or taking of possession of such revenues or income or of the mortgaged property by or on behalf of the Trustee.
- (j) The Bonds have been duly authorized and when executed by the Company, and when authenticated by the Trustee, in the manner provided in the Mortgage and delivered against payment therefor, will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms, except as the enforceability thereof may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or similar laws affecting mortgagees' and other creditors' rights generally and by general principles of equity (regardless of whether enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law) and are entitled to the benefits and security afforded by the Mortgage in accordance with the terms of the Mortgage and the Bonds, except as set forth in paragraph (i) above.
- (k) Any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other agreement or instrument set forth on Annex A hereto or filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 or any subsequent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of the Company or any Current Report on Form 8-K of the Company with an execution or filing date after December 31, 2020 are all indentures, mortgages, deeds of trust, loan agreements or other agreements or instruments that are material to the Company and its subsidiaries taken as a whole.

- (l) The Company has no “significant subsidiaries” within the meaning of Rule 1-02 of Regulation S-X under the 1933 Act.

3. *Purchase, Sale and Delivery of Bonds.* On the basis of the representations, warranties and agreements herein contained, but subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, the Company agrees to sell to the Underwriters, and the Underwriters agree, severally and not jointly, to purchase from the Company, at a purchase price of (i) 99.235% of the principal amount of the 2031 Bonds, plus accrued interest, if any, from April 1, 2021, and (ii) 98.752% of the principal amount of the 2051 Bonds, plus accrued interest, if any, from April 1, 2021 (and in the manner set forth below), the respective principal amounts of Bonds set forth opposite the name of each Underwriter on Schedule A hereto plus the respective principal amounts of additional Bonds which each such Underwriter may become obligated to purchase pursuant to the provisions of Section 8 hereof. The Underwriters hereby also agree to make a payment to the Company in an aggregate amount equal to \$1,662,500 including in respect of expenses incurred by the Company in connection with the offering of the Bonds.

Payment of the respective purchase prices for the Bonds to be purchased by the Underwriters and the payment referred to above shall be made to the Company by wire transfer of immediately available funds, payable to the order of the Company against delivery of the Bonds, in fully registered forms, to you or upon your order at 10:00 a.m., New York City time, on April 1, 2021 or such other time and date as shall be mutually agreed upon in writing by the Company and the Representatives (the “**Closing Date**”). The 2031 Bonds and the 2051 Bonds shall each be delivered in the form of one or more global certificates in aggregate denomination equal to the aggregate principal amount of the respective 2031 Bonds and 2051 Bonds upon original issuance, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for The Depository Trust Company (“**DTC**”). All other documents referred to herein that are to be delivered at the Closing Date shall be delivered at that time at the offices of Sidley Austin LLP, 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10019.

4. *Offering by the Underwriters.* It is understood that the several Underwriters propose to offer the Bonds for sale to the public as set forth in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus.

5. *Covenants of the Company.* The Company covenants and agrees with the several Underwriters that:

- (a) The Company will cause any Preliminary Prospectus and the Prospectus to be filed pursuant to, and in compliance with, Rule 424(b) of the 1933 Act Regulations, and advise the Underwriters promptly of the filing of any amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus and of the institution by the Commission of any stop order proceedings in respect of the Registration Statement, and will use its best efforts to prevent the issuance of any such stop order and to obtain as soon as possible its lifting, if issued.

- (b) If at any time when a prospectus relating to the Bonds (or the notice referred to in Rule 173(a) of the 1933 Act Regulations) is required to be delivered under the 1933 Act any event occurs as a result of which the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented would include an untrue statement of a material fact, or omit to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, or if it is necessary at any time to amend the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus to comply with the 1933 Act, the Company promptly will prepare and file with the Commission an amendment, a supplement or an appropriate document pursuant to Section 13 or 14 of the 1934 Act which will correct such statement or omission or which will effect such compliance.
- (c) The Company, during the period when a prospectus relating to the Bonds is required to be delivered under the 1933 Act, will timely file all documents required to be filed with the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 14 of the 1934 Act.
- (d) Without the prior consent of the Underwriters, the Company has not made and will not make any offer relating to the Bonds that would constitute a “free writing prospectus” as defined in Rule 405 of the 1933 Act Regulations, other than a Permitted Free Writing Prospectus; each Underwriter, severally and not jointly, represents and agrees that, without the prior consent of the Company, it has not made and will not make any offer relating to the Bonds that would constitute a “free writing prospectus” as defined in Rule 405 of the 1933 Act Regulations, other than a Permitted Free Writing Prospectus or a free writing prospectus that is not required to be filed by the Company pursuant to Rule 433 of the 1933 Act Regulations (“**Rule 433**”); any such free writing prospectus (which shall include the pricing term sheet referred to in Section 5(e) below), the use of which has been consented to by the Company and the Underwriters, is specified in Item 3 of Schedule B and herein is called a “**Permitted Free Writing Prospectus**.” The Company represents that it has treated or agrees that it will treat each Permitted Free Writing Prospectus as an “issuer free writing prospectus,” as defined in Rule 433, and has complied and will comply with the requirements of Rule 433 applicable to any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus, including timely filing with the Commission where required, legending and record keeping.
- (e) The Company agrees to prepare a pricing term sheet specifying the terms of the Bonds not contained in any Preliminary Prospectus, substantially in the form of Schedule C hereto and approved by the Representatives on behalf of the Underwriters, and to file such pricing term sheet as an “issuer free writing prospectus” pursuant to Rule 433 prior to the close of business two business days after the date hereof.
- (f) The Company agrees that if at any time following the issuance of a Permitted Free Writing Prospectus any event occurs as a result of which such Permitted Free Writing Prospectus would conflict with the information (not superseded or modified as of the Effective Date) in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus or would include an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances then prevailing, not misleading, the Company will give prompt notice thereof to the Underwriters and, if requested by the Underwriters, will prepare and furnish without charge to each Underwriter a free writing prospectus or other document, the use of which has been consented to by the Underwriters, which will correct such conflict, statement or omission.

- (g) The Company will make generally available to its security holders, in each case as soon as practicable but not later than 60 days after the close of the period covered thereby, earnings statements (in form complying with the provisions of Rule 158 under the 1933 Act, which need not be certified by independent certified public accountants unless required by the 1933 Act) covering (i) a twelve-month period beginning not later than the first day of the Company's fiscal quarter next following the effective date of the Registration Statement and (ii) a twelve-month period beginning not later than the first day of the Company's fiscal quarter next following the date of this Agreement.
- (h) The Company will furnish to you, without charge, copies of the Registration Statement (three of which will include all exhibits other than those incorporated by reference), the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, and all amendments and supplements to such documents, in each case as soon as available and in such quantities as you reasonably request.
- (i) The Company will arrange or cooperate in arrangements, if necessary, for the qualification of the Bonds for sale under the laws of such jurisdictions as you designate and will continue such qualifications in effect so long as required for the distribution; provided, however, that the Company shall not be required to qualify as a foreign limited liability company or to file any general consents to service of process under the laws of any state where it is not now so subject.
- (j) The Company will pay all expenses incident to the performance of its obligations under this Agreement including (i) the printing and filing of the Registration Statement and the printing of this Agreement and any Blue Sky Survey, (ii) the preparation and printing of certificates for the Bonds, (iii) the issuance and delivery of the Bonds as specified herein, (iv) the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters in connection with the qualification of the Bonds under the securities laws of any jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions of Section 5(i) and in connection with the preparation of the Blue Sky Survey (such fees not to exceed \$5,000), (v) the printing and delivery to the Underwriters, in quantities as hereinabove referred to, of copies of the Registration Statement and any amendments thereto, of any Preliminary Prospectus, of the Prospectus, of any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus and any amendments or supplements thereto, (vi) any fees charged by independent rating agencies for rating the Bonds, (vii) any fees and expenses in connection with the listing of the Bonds on the New York Stock Exchange LLC, (viii) any filing fee required by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., (ix) the costs of any depository arrangements for the Bonds with DTC or any successor depository and (x) the costs and expenses of the Company relating to investor presentations on any "road show" undertaken in connection with the marketing of the offering of the Bonds, including, without limitation, expenses associated with the production of road show slides and graphics, fees and expenses of any consultants engaged in connection with the road show presentations with the prior approval of the Company, travel and lodging expenses of the Underwriters and officers of the Company and any such consultants, and the cost of any aircraft chartered in connection with the road show; provided, however, the Underwriters shall reimburse a portion of the costs and expenses referred to in this clause (x).



6. *Conditions of the Obligations of the Underwriters.* The obligations of the several Underwriters to purchase and pay for the Bonds will be subject to the accuracy of the representations and warranties on the part of the Company herein, to the accuracy of the statements of officers of the Company made pursuant to the provisions hereof, to the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder and to the following additional conditions precedent:

- (a) The Prospectus shall have been filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) within the applicable time period prescribed for filing by the 1933 Act Regulations and in accordance herewith and each Permitted Free Writing Prospectus shall have been filed by the Company with the Commission within the applicable time periods prescribed for such filings by, and otherwise in compliance with, Rule 433.
- (b) At or after the Applicable Time and prior to the Closing Date, no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement shall have been issued and no proceedings for that purpose or pursuant to Section 8A of the 1933 Act shall have been instituted or, to the knowledge of the Company or you, shall be threatened by the Commission.
- (c) At or after the Applicable Time and prior to the Closing Date, the rating assigned by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or S&P Global Ratings (or any of their successors) to any debt securities or preferred stock of the Company as of the date of this Agreement shall not have been lowered.
- (d) Since the respective most recent dates as of which information is given in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and up to the Closing Date, there shall not have been any material adverse change in the condition of the Company, financial or otherwise, except as reflected in or contemplated by the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, and, since such dates and up to the Closing Date, there shall not have been any material transaction entered into by the Company other than transactions contemplated by the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and transactions in the ordinary course of business, the effect of which in your reasonable judgment is so material and adverse as to make it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Bonds on the terms and in the manner contemplated by the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus.

- (e) You shall have received an opinion of Robert T. Lucas III, Esq., Deputy General Counsel of Duke Energy Business Services LLC, the service company subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation (who in such capacity provides legal services to the Company) (or other appropriate counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Representatives, which may include Duke Energy Corporation's other "in-house" counsel), dated the Closing Date, to the effect that:
- (i) The Company has been duly organized and is validly existing as a limited liability company in good standing under the laws of the State of North Carolina, with power and authority (limited liability company and other) to own its properties and conduct its business as described in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus and to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement.
  - (ii) The Company is duly qualified to do business in each jurisdiction in which the ownership or leasing of its property or the conduct of its business requires such qualification, except where the failure to so qualify, considering all such cases in the aggregate, does not have a material adverse effect on the business, properties, financial condition or results of operations of the Company.
  - (iii) The Registration Statement became effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462 of the 1933 Act Regulations, and, to the best of such counsel's knowledge, no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued and no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted or are pending or threatened under the 1933 Act.
  - (iv) The descriptions in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus of any legal or governmental proceedings are accurate and fairly present the information required to be shown, and such counsel does not know of any litigation or any legal or governmental proceeding instituted or threatened against the Company or any of its properties that would be required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus and is not so disclosed.
  - (v) This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company.
  - (vi) The issuance and sale of the Bonds by the Company and the execution, delivery and performance by the Company of this Agreement, the Mortgage and the Bonds will not contravene any of the provisions of the Articles of Organization or the Operating Agreement, the North Carolina Limited Liability Company Act or any statute or any order, rule or regulation of which such counsel is aware of any court or governmental agency or body having jurisdiction over the Company or any of its property, nor will such action conflict with or result in a breach or violation of any of the terms or provisions of, or constitute a default under any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust, loan agreement or other agreement to which the Company is a party or by which it or its property is bound or to which any of its property or assets is subject or any instrument filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 or any subsequent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of the Company or any Current Report on Form 8-K of the Company with an execution or filing date after December 31, 2020 or identified in Annex A to this Agreement, which affects in a material way the Company's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement, the Mortgage or the Bonds.

- (vii) The North Carolina Utilities Commission and the Public Service Commission of South Carolina have issued appropriate orders with respect to the issuance and sale of the Bonds in accordance with this Agreement, and, to the best of such counsel's knowledge, such orders are still in effect and the issuance and sale of the Bonds to the Underwriters are in conformity with the terms of such orders.
- (viii) The Mortgage has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and qualified under the 1939 Act, and, assuming the due authorization, execution and delivery thereof by the Trustee, constitutes a valid and legally binding instrument of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with its terms, except (x) as the same may be limited by the laws of the States of North Carolina and South Carolina (in which States such counsel is advised all physical property of the Company subject to the Mortgage is located except for certain interconnection lines) with respect to or affecting the remedies to enforce the security provided by the Mortgage, which laws do not, in the opinion of such counsel, make inadequate the remedies necessary for the realization of the benefits of such security, and (y) that the provisions of the Mortgage subjecting to the lien thereof the revenues and income from the mortgaged property may not be effective prior to the delivery or taking of possession of such revenues or income or of the mortgaged property by or on behalf of the Trustee.
- (ix) The Bonds have been duly authorized, executed and issued by the Company and, when the same have been authenticated by the Trustee as specified in the Mortgage and delivered against payment therefor, will constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the Company enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms, and are entitled to the benefits and security afforded by the Mortgage in accordance with the terms of the Mortgage and the Bonds, except as set forth in paragraph (viii) above.
- (x) The Company has good title to all properties owned by it, subject only (a) to the lien of the Mortgage, (b) to permitted encumbrances as defined in the Mortgage, (c) to minor exceptions and defects which do not, in the aggregate, in the opinion of such counsel, materially interfere with the use by the Company of such properties for the purposes for which they are held, materially detract from the value of said properties or in any material way impair the security afforded by the Mortgage, and (d) in the case of the Company's existing hydroelectric plants, to provisions of licenses issued by the Federal Power Commission or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and to the provisions of the Federal Power Act.

- (xi) The Mortgage complies as to form with all applicable laws of the states wherein the properties subjected or intended to be subjected to the lien of the Mortgage are located, including all applicable recording laws, and constitutes a valid, direct first mortgage lien on all properties and franchises purported to be owned by the Company, except such property as is specifically excepted from the lien thereof, subject only to the liens, charges and encumbrances stated in paragraph (x) above; all fixed electric properties hereafter acquired by the Company will, upon such acquisition, become subject to the lien of the Mortgage, subject, however, to liens or charges of the character permitted to exist by the Mortgage, and to liens, if any, existing or placed on such property at the time of the acquisition thereof by the Company, and the description of such property and franchises in the Mortgage is adequate to constitute a lien on such property and franchises of the Company except as aforesaid.
- (xii) The Original Mortgage and the supplemental indentures thereto, other than the Supplemental Indenture, have been duly recorded or filed for recordation in all such offices as are necessary to perfect and to preserve and protect the lien of the Mortgage upon the property intended to be subjected to the lien thereof, and upon the filing and recording of the Supplemental Indenture, no other recording or any periodic or other refiling or rerecording of the Mortgage is or will be required in order to perfect and to preserve and protect the lien of the Mortgage upon such property, and there are no mortgage, recording or other taxes required to be paid in connection with such filing and recording or in connection with the issuance of the Bonds other than customary filing and recording fees.
- (xiii) No consent, approval, authorization, order, registration or qualification of or with any federal, North Carolina or South Carolina governmental agency or body or, to such counsel's knowledge, any federal or North Carolina court, which has not been obtained or taken and is not in full force and effect, is required to authorize or for the Company to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement, except for such consents, approvals, authorizations, registrations or qualifications as may be required under state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Bonds by the Underwriters.

Such counsel may state that such counsel's opinions in paragraphs (viii) and (ix) above are subject to the effects of bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent conveyance, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws relating to or affecting mortgagees' and other creditors' rights generally, and by general principles of equity (regardless of whether enforceability is considered in a proceeding in equity or at law) and to an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. Such counsel may also state that such counsel's opinion in paragraph (x) above is based upon the Company's title insurance. Such counsel shall state that nothing has come to such counsel's attention that has caused such counsel to believe that each document incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, when filed, was not, on its face, appropriately responsive, in all material respects, to the requirements of the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations. Such counsel shall also state that nothing has come to such counsel's attention that has caused such counsel to believe that (i) the Registration Statement as of the effective date with respect to the Underwriters pursuant to Rule 430B(f)(2) of the 1933 Act Regulations, contained any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, (ii) the Pricing Disclosure Package at the Applicable Time contained any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading or (iii) that the Prospectus as of its date or at the Closing Date, contained or contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or omits to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading. Such counsel may also state that, except as otherwise expressly provided in such opinion, such counsel does not assume any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in or incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus and does not express any opinion or belief as to (i) the financial statements or other financial and accounting data contained or incorporated by reference therein, or excluded therefrom, including with respect to compliance with XBRL interactive data requirements, (ii) the statement of the eligibility and qualification of the Trustee included in the Registration Statement (the "**Form T-1**") or (iii) the information in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus under the caption "Book-Entry System."

In rendering the foregoing opinion, such counsel may state that such counsel does not express any opinion concerning any law other than the law of the State of North Carolina or, to the extent set forth in the foregoing opinions, the federal securities laws and the law of the State of South Carolina, and may rely as to all matters of the law of the State of South Carolina on the opinion of Karol P. Mack, Esq., Deputy General Counsel of Duke Energy Business Services LLC, the service company subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation (who in such capacity provides legal services to the Company) (or other appropriate counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Representatives, which may include Duke Energy Corporation's other "in-house" counsel). Such counsel may also state that such counsel has relied as to certain factual matters on information obtained from public officials, officers of the Company and other sources believed by such counsel to be reliable.

- (f) You shall have received an opinion of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, counsel to the Company, dated the Closing Date, to the effect that:
  - (i) The statements set forth (i) under the caption "Description of First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds" in the Base Prospectus and (ii) under the caption "Description of the Mortgage Bonds" in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, insofar as such statements purport to summarize certain provisions of the Mortgage and the Bonds, fairly summarize such provisions in all material respects.

- (ii) No Governmental Approval (as defined below), which has not been obtained or taken and is not in full force and effect, is required to authorize, or is required for, the execution or delivery of this Agreement by the Company or the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated hereby, except for such consents, authorizations, orders, registrations or qualifications as may be required under the state securities or Blue Sky laws in connection with the purchase and distribution of the Bonds by the Underwriters.
- (iii) The Company is not and, solely after giving effect to the offering and sale of the Bonds and the application of the proceeds thereof as described in the Prospectus, will not be subject to registration and regulation as an “investment company” as such term is defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.
- (iv) The execution and delivery by the Company of this Agreement and the consummation by the Company of the transactions contemplated thereby, including the issuance and sale of the Bonds, will not violate or conflict with, or result in any contravention of, any Applicable Laws (as defined below) of the States of North Carolina and New York.
- (v) The statements set forth in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus under the caption “Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest),” insofar as such statements purport to summarize certain provisions of this Agreement, fairly summarize such provisions in all material respects.
- (vi) The statements set forth in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus under the caption “Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations for Non-U.S. Holders,” insofar as such statements purport to constitute summaries of matters of United States federal income tax law, constitute accurate and complete summaries, in all material respects, subject to the qualifications set forth therein.



In rendering the foregoing opinions, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP may state that (i) “Governmental Approval” means any consent, approval, license, authorization or validation of, or filing, qualification or registration with, any Governmental Authority (as defined below) required to be made or obtained by the Company pursuant to Applicable Laws, other than any consent, approval, license, authorization, validation, filing, qualification or registration that may have become applicable as a result of the involvement of any party (other than the Company) in the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or because of such parties’ legal or regulatory status or because of any other facts specifically pertaining to such parties; (ii) “Governmental Authorities” means any court, regulatory body, administrative agency or governmental body of the States of North Carolina and New York having jurisdiction over the Company under Applicable Laws and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, but excluding the North Carolina Utilities Commission and the New York State Public Service Commission; and (iii) “Applicable Laws” means those laws, rules and regulations of the States of North Carolina and New York and those federal laws, rules and regulations of the United States, in each case, that, in such counsel’s experience, are normally applicable to transactions of the type contemplated by this Agreement (other than the antifraud provisions of the United States federal securities laws, state securities or Blue Sky laws, antifraud laws, the rules and regulations of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., the North Carolina Public Utilities Act, the rules and regulations of the North Carolina Utilities Commission and the New York State Public Service Commission and the New York State Public Service Law), but without such counsel having made any special investigation as to the applicability of any specific law, rule or regulation, and the Federal Power Act and the rules and regulations of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission thereunder. In addition, such counsel may state that it has relied as to certain factual matters on information obtained from public officials, officers and representatives of the Company and that the signatures on all documents examined by such counsel are genuine, assumptions which such counsel shall not independently verified.

You shall also have received a statement of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, dated the Closing Date, to the effect that:

(i) no facts have come to such counsel's attention that have caused such counsel to believe that the documents filed by the Company under the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations that are incorporated by reference in the preliminary prospectus supplement that forms a part of the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, when filed, were not, on their face, appropriately responsive in all material respects to the requirements of the 1934 Act and the 1934 Act Regulations (except that in each case such counsel need not express any view with respect to the financial statements, schedules and other financial and accounting information included or incorporated by reference therein or excluded therefrom, including with respect to compliance with XBRL interactive data requirements), (ii) no facts have come to such counsel's attention that have caused such counsel to believe that the Registration Statement, at the Applicable Time, and the Prospectus, as of its date, appeared on their face not to be appropriately responsive in all material respects to the requirements of the 1933 Act and the 1933 Act Regulations (except that in each case such counsel need not express any view with respect to the financial statements, schedules and other financial and accounting information included or incorporated by reference therein or excluded therefrom, including with respect to compliance with XBRL interactive data requirements or that part of the Registration Statement that constitutes the statement of eligibility on the Form T-1) and (iii) no facts have come to such counsel's attention that have caused such counsel to believe that the Registration Statement, at the Applicable Time, contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, or that the Prospectus, as of its date and as of the Closing Date, contained or contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading (except that in each case such counsel need not express any view with respect to the financial statements, schedules and other financial and accounting information included or incorporated by reference therein or excluded therefrom, including with respect to compliance with XBRL interactive data requirements, or that part of the Registration Statement that constitutes the statement of eligibility on the Form T-1). Such counsel shall further state that, in addition, no facts have come to such counsel's attention that have caused such counsel to believe that the Pricing Disclosure Package, as of the Applicable Time, contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading (except that such counsel need not express any view with respect to the financial statements, schedules and other financial and accounting information included or incorporated by reference therein or excluded therefrom, including with respect to compliance with XBRL interactive data requirements).

In addition, such statement shall confirm that the Prospectus has been filed with the Commission within the time period required by Rule 424 of the 1933 Act Regulations and any required filing of a Permitted Free Writing Prospectus pursuant to Rule 433 of the 1933 Act Regulations has been made with the Commission within the time period required by Rule 433(d) of the 1933 Act Regulations. Such statement shall further state that assuming the accuracy of the factual matters contained in the representations and warranties of the Company set forth in Section 2(d) of this Agreement, the Registration Statement became effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462 of the 1933 Act Regulations and, pursuant to Section 309 of the 1939 Act, the Mortgage has been qualified under the 1939 Act, and that based solely on such counsel's review of the Commission's website, no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued and, to such counsel's knowledge, no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted or are pending or threatened by the Commission.

In addition, such counsel may state that such counsel does not pass upon, or assume any responsibility for, the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus and has made no independent check or verification thereof (except to the limited extent referred to in Sections 6(f)(i), (v) and (vi) above).

- (g) You shall have received a letter from Sidley Austin LLP, counsel for the Underwriters, dated the Closing Date, with respect to such opinions and statements as you may reasonably request, and the Company shall have furnished to such counsel such documents as it may request for the purpose of enabling it to pass upon such matters. In delivering its letter pursuant to this Section 6(g), Sidley Austin LLP may rely on the opinion of Robert T. Lucas III, Esq. as to matters of North Carolina law and on the opinion of Karol P. Mack, Esq., Deputy General Counsel of Duke Energy Business Services LLC, the service company subsidiary of Duke Energy Corporation (or other appropriate counsel reasonably satisfactory to the Representatives, which may include Duke Energy Corporation's other "in-house" counsel) as to matters of South Carolina law.
- (h) At or after the date hereof, there shall not have occurred any of the following: (i) a suspension or material limitation in trading in securities generally or of the securities of the Company or Duke Energy Corporation, on the New York Stock Exchange LLC; or (ii) a general moratorium on commercial banking activities in New York declared by either Federal or New York State authorities or a material disruption in commercial banking services or securities settlement or clearance services in the United States; or (iii) the outbreak or escalation of hostilities involving the United States or the declaration by the United States of a national emergency or war, if the effect of any such event specified in this subsection (h) in your reasonable judgment makes it impracticable or inadvisable to proceed with the public offering or the delivery of the Bonds on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus. In such event there shall be no liability on the part of any party to any other party except as otherwise provided in Section 7 hereof and except for the expenses to be borne by the Company as provided in Section 5(j) hereof.
- (i) You shall have received a certificate of the Chairman of the Board, the President, any Vice President, the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary and any financial or accounting officer of the Company, dated the Closing Date, in which such officers, to the best of their knowledge after reasonable investigation, shall state that the representations and warranties of the Company in this Agreement are true and correct as of the Closing Date, that the Company has complied with all agreements and satisfied all conditions on its part to be performed or satisfied at or prior to the Closing Date, that the conditions specified in Section 6(c) and Section 6(d) have been satisfied, and that no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued and no proceedings for that purpose have been instituted or are threatened by the Commission.

- (j) At the time of the execution of this Agreement, you shall have received a letter dated such date, in form and substance satisfactory to you, from Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, containing statements and information of the type ordinarily included in accountants' "comfort letters" to underwriters with respect to the financial statements and certain financial information contained in or incorporated by reference into the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package and the Prospectus, including specific references to inquiries regarding any increase in long-term debt (excluding current maturities), decrease in net current assets (defined as current assets less current liabilities) or member's equity, and decrease in operating revenues or net income for the period subsequent to the latest financial statements incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement when compared with the corresponding period from the preceding year, as of a specified date not more than three business days prior to the date of this Agreement.
- (k) At the Closing Date, you shall have received from Deloitte & Touche LLP, a letter dated as of the Closing Date, to the effect that they reaffirm the statements made in the letter furnished pursuant to subsection (j) of this Section 6, except that the specified date referred to shall be not more than three business days prior to the Closing Date.

The Company will furnish you with such conformed copies of such opinions, certificates, letters and documents as you reasonably request.

7. *Indemnification.* (a) The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each Underwriter, their respective officers and directors, and each person, if any, who controls any Underwriter within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act, as follows:

- (i) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto) including the Rule 430B Information, or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or arising out of any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in the Preliminary Prospectus, the Pricing Disclosure Package, the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) or any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus, or the omission or alleged omission therefrom of a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading, unless such statement or omission or such alleged statement or omission was made in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by the Representatives on behalf of the Underwriters expressly for use in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), the Preliminary Prospectus, the Pricing Disclosure Package, the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) or any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus;

- (ii) against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever to the extent of the aggregate amount paid in settlement of any litigation, commenced or threatened, or of any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission or any such alleged untrue statement or omission, if such settlement is effected with the written consent of the Company; and
- (iii) against any and all expense whatsoever reasonably incurred in investigating, preparing or defending against any litigation, commenced or threatened, or any claim whatsoever based upon any such untrue statement or omission, or any such alleged untrue statement or omission, to the extent that any such expense is not paid under (i) or (ii) of this subsection 7(a).

In no case shall the Company be liable under this indemnity agreement with respect to any claim made against any Underwriter or any such controlling person unless the Company shall be notified in writing of the nature of the claim within a reasonable time after the assertion thereof, but failure so to notify the Company shall not relieve it from any liability which it may have otherwise than under subsections 7(a) and 7(d). The Company shall be entitled to participate at its own expense in the defense, or, if it so elects, within a reasonable time after receipt of such notice, to assume the defense of any suit, but if it so elects to assume the defense, such defense shall be conducted by counsel chosen by it and approved by the Underwriter or Underwriters or controlling person or persons, or defendant or defendants in any suit so brought, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. In any such suit, any Underwriter or any such controlling person shall have the right to employ its own counsel, but the fees and expenses of such counsel shall be at the expense of such Underwriter or such controlling person unless (i) the Company and such Underwriter shall have mutually agreed to the employment of such counsel, or (ii) the named parties to any such action (including any impleaded parties) include both such Underwriter or such controlling person and the Company and such Underwriter or such controlling person shall have been advised by such counsel that a conflict of interest between the Company and such Underwriter or such controlling person may arise and for this reason it is not desirable for the same counsel to represent both the indemnifying party and also the indemnified party (it being understood, however, that the Company shall not, in connection with any one such action or separate but substantially similar or related actions in the same jurisdiction arising out of the same general allegations or circumstances, be liable for the reasonable fees and expenses of more than one separate firm of attorneys for all such Underwriters and all such controlling persons, which firm shall be designated in writing by you). The Company agrees to notify you within a reasonable time of the assertion of any claim against it, any of its officers or directors or any person who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act, in connection with the sale of the Bonds.

- (b) Each Underwriter severally and not jointly agrees that it will indemnify and hold harmless the Company, its directors and each of the officers of the Company who signed the Registration Statement and each person, if any, who controls the Company within the meaning of Section 15 of the 1933 Act to the same extent as the indemnity contained in subsection (a) of this Section 7, but only with respect to statements or omissions made in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), the Preliminary Prospectus, the Pricing Disclosure Package, the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) or any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus, in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by the Representatives on behalf of the Underwriters expressly for use in the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), the Preliminary Prospectus, the Pricing Disclosure Package, the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) or any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus. In case any action shall be brought against the Company or any person so indemnified based on the Registration Statement (or any amendment thereto), the Preliminary Prospectus, the Pricing Disclosure Package, the Prospectus (or any amendment or supplement thereto) or any Permitted Free Writing Prospectus and in respect of which indemnity may be sought against any Underwriter, such Underwriter shall have the rights and duties given to the Company, and the Company and each person so indemnified shall have the rights and duties given to the Underwriters, by the provisions of subsection (a) of this Section 7.

- (c) No indemnifying party shall, without the prior written consent of the indemnified party, effect any settlement of any pending or threatened proceeding in respect of which any indemnified party is or could have been a party and indemnity could have been sought hereunder by such indemnified party, unless such settlement includes an unconditional release of such indemnified party from all liability on claims that are the subject matter of such proceeding, and does not include a statement as to or an admission of fault, culpability or a failure to act by or on behalf of any indemnified party.
- (d) If the indemnification provided for in this Section 7 is unavailable to or insufficient to hold harmless an indemnified party in respect of any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever (or actions in respect thereof) that would otherwise have been indemnified under the terms of such indemnity, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of such loss, liability, claim, damage or expense (or actions in respect thereof) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other from the offering of the Bonds. If, however, the allocation provided by the immediately preceding sentence is not permitted by applicable law or if the indemnified party failed to give the notice required above, then each indemnifying party shall contribute to such amount paid or payable by such indemnified party in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only such relative benefits but also the relative fault of the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other in connection with the statements or omissions which resulted in such loss, liability, claim, damage or expense (or actions in respect thereof), as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Company on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total net proceeds from the offering (before deducting expenses) received by the Company bear to the total compensation received by the Underwriters in respect of the underwriting discount as set forth in the table on the cover page of the Prospectus. The relative fault shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by the Company on the one hand or the Underwriters on the other and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. The Company and the Underwriters agree that it would not be just and equitable if contributions pursuant to this Section 7 were determined by pro rata allocation (even if the Underwriters were treated as one entity for such purpose) or by any other method of allocation which does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above in this Section 7. The amount paid or payable by an indemnified party as a result of the losses, liabilities, claims, damages or expenses (or actions in respect thereof) referred to above in this Section 7 shall be deemed to include any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such indemnified party in connection with investigating or defending any such action or claim. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 7, no Underwriter shall be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total price at which the Bonds underwritten by it and distributed to the public were offered to the public exceeds the amount of any damages which such Underwriter has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission. No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the 1933 Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. The Underwriters' obligations to contribute are several in proportion to their respective underwriting obligations and not joint.



8. *Default by One or More of the Underwriters.* (a) If any Underwriter shall default in its obligation to purchase the principal amount of the 2031 Bonds or the 2051 Bonds, as applicable, which it has agreed to purchase hereunder on the Closing Date, you may in your discretion arrange for you or another party or other parties to purchase such 2031 Bonds and/or 2051 Bonds, as applicable, on the terms contained herein. If within twenty-four hours after such default by any Underwriter you do not arrange for the purchase of such Bonds, then the Company shall be entitled to a further period of twenty-four hours within which to procure another party or other parties satisfactory to you to purchase such Bonds on such terms. In the event that, within the respective prescribed periods, you notify the Company that you have so arranged for the purchase of such Bonds, or the Company notifies you that it has so arranged for the purchase of such Bonds, you or the Company shall have the right to postpone such Closing Date for a period of not more than seven days, in order to effect whatever changes may thereby be made necessary in the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus, or in any other documents or arrangements, and the Company agrees to file promptly any amendments to the Registration Statement, the Pricing Disclosure Package or the Prospectus which may be required. The term "Underwriter" as used in this Agreement shall include any person substituted under this Section 8 with like effect as if such person had originally been a party to this Agreement with respect to such Bonds.

- (b) If, after giving effect to any arrangements for the purchase of the Bonds of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters by you or the Company as provided in subsection (a) above, the aggregate amount of such Bonds which remains unpurchased does not exceed one-tenth of the aggregate amount of all the Bonds to be purchased at such Closing Date, then the Company shall have the right to require each non-defaulting Underwriter to purchase the amounts of Bonds which such Underwriter agreed to purchase hereunder at such Closing Date and, in addition, to require each non-defaulting Underwriter to purchase its pro rata share (based on the amounts of Bonds which such Underwriter agreed to purchase hereunder) of the Bonds of such defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters for which such arrangements have not been made; but nothing herein shall relieve a defaulting Underwriter from liability for its default.

- (c) If, after giving effect to any arrangements for the purchase of the Bonds of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters by you or the Company as provided in subsection (a) above, the aggregate amount of such Bonds which remains unpurchased exceeds one-tenth of the aggregate amount of all the Bonds to be purchased at such Closing Date, or if the Company shall not exercise the right described in subsection (b) above to require non-defaulting Underwriters to purchase the Bonds of a defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters, then this Agreement shall thereupon terminate, without liability on the part of any non-defaulting Underwriter or the Company, except for the expenses to be borne by the Company as provided in Section 5(j) hereof and the indemnity and contribution agreement in Section 7 hereof; but nothing herein shall relieve a defaulting Underwriter from liability for its default.

9. *Representations and Indemnities to Survive Delivery.* The respective indemnities, agreements, representations, warranties and other statements of the Company or its officers and of the several Underwriters set forth in or made pursuant to this Agreement will remain in full force and effect, regardless of any investigation, or statement as to the results thereof, made by or on behalf of any Underwriter or the Company, or any of their respective officers or directors or any controlling person referred to in Section 7 hereof, and will survive delivery of and payment for the Bonds.

10. *Reliance on Your Acts.* In all dealings hereunder, the Representatives shall act on behalf of each of the Underwriters, and the Company shall be entitled to act and rely upon any statement, request, notice or agreement on behalf of any Underwriter made or given by the Representatives.

11. *No Fiduciary Relationship.* The Company acknowledges and agrees that (a) the purchase and sale of the Bonds pursuant to this Agreement is an arm's-length commercial transaction between the Company on the one hand, and the Underwriters on the other hand, (b) in connection with the offering contemplated hereby and the process leading to such transaction, each Underwriter is and has been acting solely as a principal and is not the agent or fiduciary of the Company or its shareholders, creditors, employees, or any other party, (c) no Underwriter has assumed or will assume an advisory or fiduciary responsibility in favor of the Company with respect to the offering contemplated hereby or the process leading thereto (irrespective of whether such Underwriter has advised or is currently advising the Company on other matters) and no Underwriter has any obligation to the Company with respect to the offering contemplated hereby except the obligations expressly set forth in this Agreement, (d) the Underwriters and their respective affiliates may be engaged in a broad range of transactions that involve interests that differ from those of the Company, and (e) the Underwriters have not provided any legal, accounting, regulatory or tax advice with respect to the transaction contemplated hereby and the Company has consulted its own legal, accounting, regulatory and tax advisors to the extent it deemed appropriate.

12. *Recognition of the U.S. Special Resolution Regimes.*

(i) In the event that any Underwriter that is a Covered Entity (as defined below) becomes subject to a proceeding under a U.S. Special Resolution Regime (as defined below), the transfer from such Underwriter of this Agreement, and any interest and obligation in or under this Agreement, will be effective to the same extent as the transfer would be effective under the U.S. Special Resolution Regime if this Agreement, and any such interest and obligation, were governed by the laws of the United States or a state of the United States.

(ii) In the event that any Underwriter that is a Covered Entity or a BHC Act Affiliate (as defined below) of such Underwriter becomes subject to a proceeding under a U.S. Special Resolution Regime, Default Rights (as defined below) under this Agreement that may be exercised against such Underwriter are permitted to be exercised to no greater extent than such Default Rights could be exercised under the U.S. Special Resolution Regime if this Agreement were governed by the laws of the United States or a state of the United States.

As used in this Section 12:

“**BHC Act Affiliate**” has the meaning assigned to the term “affiliate” in, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, 12 U.S.C. § 1841(k).

“**Covered Entity**” means any of the following:

- (i) a “covered entity” as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 252.82(b);
- (ii) a “covered bank” as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 47.3(b); or
- (iii) a “covered FSI” as that term is defined in, and interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. § 382.2(b).

“**Default Right**” has the meaning assigned to that term in, and shall be interpreted in accordance with, 12 C.F.R. §§ 252.81, 47.2 or 382.1, as applicable.

“**U.S. Special Resolution Regime**” means each of (i) the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder and (ii) Title II of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

13. *Notices.* All communications hereunder will be in writing and, if sent to the Underwriters, will be mailed or telecopied and confirmed to BNP Paribas Securities Corp., 787 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10019, Attention: Syndicate Desk - 7th Floor (email: [new.york.syndicate@bnpparibas.com](mailto:new.york.syndicate@bnpparibas.com)); BofA Securities, Inc., 1540 Broadway, NY 10036, Attention: High Grade Transaction Management/Legal, (Fax No.: (212) 901-7881), Email: [dg.hg\\_ua\\_notices@bofa.com](mailto:dg.hg_ua_notices@bofa.com); Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Eleven Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010, (Fax no.: (212) 325-4296), Attention: IB-Legal; J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, 383 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10179, (Fax no.: (212) 834-6081), Attention: Investment Grade Syndicate Desk; Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, 1585 Broadway, New York, New York 10036, Attention: Equity Syndicate Desk, with a copy to the Legal Department; Truist Securities, Inc., 3333 Peachtree Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30326, (Fax no.: (404) 926-5027), Attention: Investment Grade Debt Capital Markets; or if sent to the Company, will be mailed or telecopied and confirmed to it at 550 South Tryon Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202 (Fax no.: (980) 373-4723), attention of Assistant Treasurer. Any such communications shall take effect upon receipt thereof.

14. *Business Day.* As used herein, the term “business day” shall mean any day when the Commission’s office in Washington, D.C. is open for business.

15. *Successors.* This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Underwriters and the Company and their respective successors. Nothing expressed or mentioned in this Agreement is intended or shall be construed to give any person, firm or corporation, other than the parties hereto and their respective successors and the controlling persons, officers and directors referred to in Section 7 and their respective successors, heirs and legal representatives, any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under or in respect of this Agreement or any provision herein contained; this Agreement and all conditions and provisions hereof being intended to be and being for the sole and exclusive benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and said controlling persons, officers and directors and their respective successors, heirs and legal representatives, and for the benefit of no other person, firm or corporation. No purchaser of Bonds from any Underwriter shall be deemed to be a successor or assign by reason merely of such purchase.

16. *Counterparts; Electronic Signatures.* This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which when so executed shall be deemed to be an original and all of which when taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument. The words “execution,” “signed,” “signature,” and words of like import in this Agreement or in any other certificate, agreement or document related to this Agreement, the Indenture or the Bonds shall include images of manually executed signatures transmitted by facsimile or other electronic format (including, without limitation, “pdf”, “tif” or “jpg”) and other electronic signatures (including, without limitation, DocuSign and AdobeSign). The use of electronic signatures and electronic records (including, without limitation, any contract or other record created, generated, sent, communicated, received, or stored by electronic means) shall be of the same legal effect, validity and enforceability as a manually executed signature or use of a paper-based record-keeping system to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, including the Federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, the New York State Electronic Signatures and Records Act and any other applicable law, including, without limitation, any state law based on the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act or the Uniform Commercial Code.

17. *Applicable Law.* This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

If the foregoing is in accordance with your understanding, kindly sign and return to us two counterparts hereof, and upon confirmation and acceptance by the Underwriters, this Agreement and such confirmation and acceptance will become a binding agreement between the Company, on the one hand, and each of the Underwriters, on the other hand, in accordance with its terms.

Very truly yours,

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

By: /s/Chris R. Bauer

Name: Chris R. Bauer

Title: Assistant Treasurer

*[Remainder of page left blank intentionally]*



The foregoing Underwriting Agreement is hereby confirmed and accepted as of the date first above written.

BNP PARIBAS SECURITIES CORP.  
BOFA SECURITIES, INC.  
CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC  
J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES LLC  
MORGAN STANLEY & CO. LLC  
TRUIST SECURITIES, INC.

On behalf of each of the Underwriters

BNP PARIBAS SECURITIES CORP.

By: /s/ Pasquale A. Perraglia IV  
Name: Pasquale A. Perraglia IV  
Title: Director

CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC

By: /s/ Nevin Bhatia  
Name: Nevin Bhatia  
Title: Managing Director

MORGAN STANLEY & CO. LLC

By: /s/ Yuriy Slyz  
Name: Yuriy Slyz  
Title: Executive Director

BOFA SECURITIES, INC.

By: /s/ Shawn Cepeda  
Name: Shawn Cepeda  
Title: Managing Director

J.P. MORGAN SECURITIES LLC

By: /s/ Maria Sramek  
Name: Maria Sramek  
Title: Executive Director

TRUIST SECURITIES, INC.

By: /s/ Robert Nordlinger  
Name: Robert Nordlinger  
Title: Director

## SCHEDULE A

<b>Underwriter</b>	<b>Principal Amount of 2031 Bonds to be Purchased</b>	<b>Principal Amount of 2051 Bonds to be Purchased</b>
BNP Paribas Securities Corp.	\$ 74,250,000	\$ 60,750,000
BofA Securities, Inc.	74,250,000	60,750,000
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC	74,250,000	60,750,000
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	74,250,000	60,750,000
Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC	74,250,000	60,750,000
Truist Securities, Inc.	74,250,000	60,750,000
Santander Investment Securities Inc.	32,120,000	26,280,000
Loop Capital Markets LLC	32,065,000	26,235,000
Regions Securities LLC	32,065,000	26,235,000
CastleOak Securities, L.P.	2,750,000	2,250,000
Drexel Hamilton, LLC	2,750,000	2,250,000
Samuel A. Ramirez & Company, Inc.	2,750,000	2,250,000
Total	<u>\$ 550,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 450,000,000</u>

A-1

**SCHEDULE B****PRICING DISCLOSURE PACKAGE**

- 1) Base Prospectus
- 2) Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated March 29, 2021
- 3) Permitted Free Writing Prospectus
  - a) Pricing Term Sheet attached as Schedule C hereto

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B-1

## SCHEDULE C

*Filed pursuant to Rule 433  
March 29, 2021  
Relating to  
Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated March 29, 2021  
to  
Prospectus dated September 23, 2019  
Registration Statement No. 333-233896-06*

**Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC  
First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds,  
\$550,000,000 2.55% Series due 2031  
\$450,000,000 3.45% Series due 2051**

Pricing Term Sheet

Issuer:	Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (the “ <b>Issuer</b> ”)	
Trade Date:	March 29, 2021	
Settlement Date:	April 1, 2021; T+3	
Security Description:	First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031 (the “ <b>2031 Bonds</b> ”)	First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051 (the “ <b>2051 Bonds</b> ”)
Principal Amount:	\$550,000,000	\$450,000,000
Maturity Date:	April 15, 2031	April 15, 2051
Benchmark Treasury:	1.125% due February 15, 2031	1.625% due November 15, 2050
Benchmark Treasury Price:	94-21+	83-08
Benchmark Treasury Yield:	1.713%	2.420%
Spread to Benchmark Treasury:	+85 bps	+105 bps
Reoffer Yield:	2.563%	3.470%
Price to the Public:	99.885% per 2031 Bond, plus accrued interest, if any, from April 1, 2021	99.627% per 2051 Bond, plus accrued interest, if any, from April 1, 2021
Coupon:	2.55%	3.45%
Interest Payment Dates:	April 15 and October 15, beginning on October 15, 2021	April 15 and October 15, beginning on October 15, 2021

Redemption Provisions/ Make-Whole Call:	At any time before January 15, 2031 (which is the date that is three months prior to the maturity date of the 2031 Bonds (the “ <b>2031 Par Call Date</b> ”)), redeemable at the Treasury Rate + 15 bps. At any time on or after the 2031 Par Call Date, redeemable at par.	At any time before October 15, 2050 (which is the date that is six months prior to the maturity date of the 2051 Bonds (the “ <b>2051 Par Call Date</b> ”)), redeemable at the Treasury Rate + 20 bps. At any time on or after the 2051 Par Call Date, redeemable at par.
CUSIP / ISIN:	26442C BB9/ US26442CBB90	26442C BC7 / US26442CBC73
Joint Book-Running Managers:	BNP Paribas Securities Corp. BofA Securities, Inc. Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC J.P. Morgan Securities LLC Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC Truist Securities, Inc.	
Co-Managers:	Santander Investment Securities Inc. Loop Capital Markets LLC Regions Securities LLC CastleOak Securities, L.P. Drexel Hamilton, LLC Samuel A. Ramirez & Company, Inc.	

**The Issuer has filed a registration statement (including a prospectus) with the SEC for the offering to which this communication relates. Before you invest, you should read the prospectus in that registration statement and other documents the Issuer has filed with the SEC for more complete information about the Issuer and this offering. You may get these documents for free by visiting EDGAR on the SEC Web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). Alternatively, the Issuer, any underwriter or any dealer participating in the offering will arrange to send you the prospectus if you request it by calling BNP Paribas Securities Corp. toll-free at (800) 854-5674, BofA Securities, Inc. toll-free at (800) 294-1322, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC toll-free at (800) 221-1037, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC collect at (212) 834-4533, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC toll-free at (866) 718-1649 or Truist Securities, Inc. toll-free at (800) 685-4786.**

## Annex A

Material Agreements

\$475,000,000 Second Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of December 11, 2015, among Duke Energy Receivables Finance Company, LLC, as Borrower, the Lenders listed therein and Mizuho Bank, Ltd., as Administrative Agent, as amended from time to time, including by Amendment No. 6, dated as of December 21, 2020.

Amended and Restated Servicing Agreement, dated as of October 18, 2013, among Duke Energy Receivables Finance Company, LLC, as Buyer, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, as initial Servicer, and Mizuho Bank, Ltd. (as successor to Citibank, N.A.), as Administrative Agent, as amended.

Amended and Restated Receivables Purchase Agreement, dated as of October 18, 2013, between Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, as Seller, and Duke Energy Receivables Finance Company, LLC, as Buyer, as amended.

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Annex A-1

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**DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC**

**TO**

**THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A.,  
Trustee**

**ONE-HUNDRED AND FIFTH SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE**

**Dated as of April 1, 2021**

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**CREATING TWO SERIES OF FIRST AND REFUNDING  
MORTGAGE BONDS**

**\$550,000,000 FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS, 2.55% SERIES DUE 2031**

**\$450,000,000 FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BONDS, 3.45% SERIES DUE 2051**

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**SUPPLEMENTAL TO  
FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE  
DATED AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1927**

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Drawn By and Return To:  
Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10166  
Attention: Brendan P. Harney

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SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE, bearing date as of the 1 day of April, 2021, made and entered into by and between Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a limited liability company duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina, hereinafter called the “Company”, party of the first part, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (formerly known as The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A.), a national banking association, having a corporate trust office at 4655 Salisbury Road, Suite 300, Jacksonville, Florida 32256, hereinafter called the “Trustee”, as Trustee, party of the second part. The Trustee is the successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank, formerly known as Chemical Bank (successor to Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York)), as Trustee.

WHEREAS the Company’s predecessor is Duke Energy Corporation (formerly known as Duke Power Company), a corporation organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina, which converted its form of organization on April 3, 2006 from a North Carolina corporation to a North Carolina limited liability company named “Duke Power Company LLC,” which changed its name to Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC on October 1, 2006; and

WHEREAS Duke Power Company, a New Jersey corporation, hereinafter called the “New Jersey Company”, duly executed and delivered its First and Refunding Mortgage, dated as of December 1, 1927, to Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Trustee, to secure its First and Refunding Mortgage Gold Bonds, to be issued from time to time in series as provided in said Mortgage, and has from time to time duly executed and delivered supplemental indentures, including supplemental indentures dated as of September 1, 1947 and February 1, 1949, to Guaranty Trust Company of New York (the corporate name of which has been changed to Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York), as Trustee, and a supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1960 to Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Trustee, supplementing and modifying said Mortgage (said Mortgage, as so supplemented and modified by the supplemental indentures dated as of September 1, 1947, February 1, 1949 and February 1, 1960, being hereinafter referred to as the “original indenture”); and

WHEREAS bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.65% Series Due 1977” (herein called “bonds of the 2.65% Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2 7/8% Series Due 1979” (herein called “bonds of the 1979 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6 3/8% Series Due 1998” (herein called “bonds of the 1998 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Pollution Control Facilities Revenue Refunding Series Due 2014” (herein called “bonds of the 1990 Pollution Control Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, City of Greensboro Series Due 2027” (herein called “bonds of the 2027 City of Greensboro Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Medium-Term Notes Series” (herein called “bonds of the Medium-Term Notes Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6 5/8% Series B Due 2003” (herein called “bonds of the 2003 Series B”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6 3/8% Series Due 2008” (herein called “bonds of the 2008 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 5 7/8% Series C Due 2003” (herein called “bonds of the 2003 Series C”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Pollution Control Facilities Revenue Refunding Series Due 2014” (herein called “bonds of the 1993 Pollution Control Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6 1/4% Series B 2004” (herein called “bonds of the 2004 Series B”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7% Series Due 2033” (herein called “bonds of the 2033 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6 7/8% Series B Due 2023” (herein called “bonds of the 2023 Series B”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6 3/4% Series Due 2025” (herein called “bonds of the 2025 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7 7/8% Series Due 2024” (herein called “bonds of the 2024 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7 1/2% Series B Due 2025” (herein called “bonds of the 2025 Series B”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7 1/2% Series Due 1999” (herein called “bonds of the 1999 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7% Series Due 2000” (herein called “bonds of the 2000 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7% Series B Due 2000” (herein called “bonds of the 2000 Series B”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6.625% Series Due 2003” (herein called “bonds of the 2003 Series”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 9 5/8% Series Due 2020” (herein called “bonds of the 9 5/8% Series due 2020”), bonds of a series known as the “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 8 3/4% Series Due 2021” (herein called “bonds of the 2021 Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7% Series Due 2005” (herein called “bonds of the 2005 Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.75% Series A Due 2008” (herein called “bonds of the 3.75% Series A”), bonds of series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.75% Series B Due 2008” (herein called “bonds of the 3.75% Series B,” and together with the bonds of the 3.75% Series A, the “bonds of the 3.75% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7 3/8% Series Due 2023” (herein called “bonds of the 7 3/8% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 4 1/2% Series Due 2010” (herein called “bonds of the 4 1/2% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 5.30% Series Due 2015” (herein called “bonds of the 5.30% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 5.25% Series Due 2018” (herein called “bonds of the 5.25% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6.00% Series Due 2038” (herein called “bonds of the 6.00% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2007A Pledge Series Due 2040” (herein called “bonds of the 2007A Pledge Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2007B Pledge Series Due 2040” (herein called “bonds of the 2007B Pledge Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 5.10% Series B Due 2018” (herein called “bonds of the 5.10% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 6.05% Series B Due 2038” (herein called “bonds of the 6.05% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 7.00% Series C Due 2018 (herein called “bonds of the 2018 Series C”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 5.30% Series Due 2040” (herein called “bonds of the 2040 Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 4.30% Series due 2020”(herein called “bonds of the 2020 Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2010A Due 2031” (herein called “bonds of the 2010A Solid Waste Disposal Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2010B Due 2031” (herein called “bonds of the 2010B Solid Waste Disposal Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2010C Due 2040” (herein called “bonds of the 2010C Solid Waste Disposal Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds Series 2010D Due 2040 (herein called “bonds of the 2010D Solid Waste Disposal Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.90% Series due 2021” (herein called “bonds of the 3.90% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 1.75% Series due 2016” (herein called “bonds of the 1.75% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 4.25% Series due 2041” (herein called “bonds of the 4.25% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 4.00% Series due 2042” (herein called “bonds of the 4.00% Series”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.75% Series due 2045” (herein called “bonds of the 3.75% Series due 2045”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.500% Series due 2023” (herein called “bonds of the 2.500% Series due 2023”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.875% Series due 2046” (herein called “bonds of the 3.875% Series due 2046”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.95% Series due 2026” (herein called “bonds of the 2.95% Series due 2026”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.70% Series due 2047” (herein called “bonds of the 3.70%

Series due 2047”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.05% Series due 2023” (herein called “bonds of the 3.05% Series due 2023”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.95% Series due 2048 (herein called “bonds of the 3.95% Series due 2048”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.35% Series due 2022” (herein called “bonds of the 3.35% Series due 2022”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.95% Series due 2028” (herein called “bonds of the 3.95% Series due 2028”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.45% Series due 2029” (herein called “bonds of the 2.45% Series due 2029”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.20% Series due 2049” (herein called “bonds of the 3.20% Series due 2049”), bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.45% Series due 2030” (herein called “bonds of the 2.45% Series due 2030”) and such other bonds that have heretofore been issued and (except for bonds of the 2.65% Series, bonds of the 1979 Series, bonds of the 1998 Series, bonds of the 1990 Pollution Control Series, bonds of the Medium Term Notes Series, bonds of the 2003 Series B, bonds of the 2008 Series, bonds of the 2003 Series C, bonds of the 1993 Pollution Control Series, bonds of the 2004 Series B, bonds of the 2033 Series, bonds of the 2023 Series B, bonds of the 2025 Series, bonds of the 2024 Series, bonds of the 2025 Series B, bonds of the 1999 Series, bonds of the 2000 Series, bonds of the 2000 Series B, bonds of the 2003 Series, bonds of the 9 5/8% Series due 2020, bonds of the 2021 Series, bonds of the 2005 Series, bonds of the 3.75% Series, bonds of the 7 3/8% Series, bonds of the 2007A Pledge Series, bonds of the 2007B Pledge Series, bonds of the 4 1/2% Series, bonds of the 5.30% Series, bonds of a series known as “First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, Pollution Control Facilities Revenue Refunding Series Due 2017,” bonds of the 1.75% Series, bonds of the 5.25% Series, bonds of the 5.10% Series, bonds of the 2018 Series C, bonds of the 2020 Series, bonds of the 2007A Pledge Series, bonds of the 2007B Pledge Series, bonds of the 2010A Solid Waste Disposal Series, bonds of the 2010B Solid Waste Disposal Series, and other such bonds which have been redeemed or retired in their entirety) are the only bonds now outstanding under the original indenture as heretofore supplemented; and

WHEREAS the Company has duly executed and delivered a supplemental indenture, dated as of June 15, 1964, to Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Trustee, for the purpose of evidencing the succession by merger of the Company to the New Jersey Company and the assumption by the Company of the covenants and conditions of the New Jersey Company in the original indenture and to enable the Company to have and exercise the powers and rights of the New Jersey Company under the original indenture in accordance with the terms thereof and whereby the Company assumed and agreed to pay duly and punctually the principal of and interest on the bonds issued under the original indenture in accordance with the provisions of said bonds and the coupons thereto appertaining and the original indenture, and agreed to perform and fulfill all the terms, covenants and conditions of the original indenture binding upon the New Jersey Company, and

WHEREAS Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York resigned as Trustee under the original indenture as heretofore supplemented and Chemical Bank was appointed successor Trustee, said resignation and appointment having taken effect on August 30, 1994 pursuant to an Instrument of Resignation, Appointment and Acceptance dated as of August 30, 1994 among the Company, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Trustee, and Chemical Bank (now known as JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.), as successor Trustee; and

WHEREAS JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. resigned as Trustee and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (formerly known as The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A.) was appointed successor Trustee, said resignation and appointment having taken effect on September 24, 2007 pursuant to an Instrument of Resignation, Appointment and Acceptance dated as of September 24, 2007 among the Company, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Trustee, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor Trustee; and

WHEREAS the Company desires to create under the original indenture, as heretofore supplemented and as to be supplemented by this supplemental indenture, two new series of bonds, to be known as its "First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031," and its "First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051," and to determine the terms and provisions and the form of the bonds of each such series; and

WHEREAS for the purposes hereinabove recited, and pursuant to due limited liability company action, the Company has duly determined to execute and deliver to the Trustee a supplemental indenture in the form hereof supplementing the original indenture (the original indenture, as previously supplemented by supplemental indentures and as hereby supplemented, being sometimes hereinafter referred to as the "Indenture"); and

WHEREAS all conditions and requirements necessary to make this supplemental indenture a valid, legal and binding instrument in accordance with its terms have been done and performed, and the execution and delivery hereof have been in all respects duly authorized:

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH:

That in consideration of the premises and of the sum of one dollar duly paid by the Company to the Trustee at or before the execution and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the Company hereby covenants and agrees with the Trustee and its successors in the trust under the Indenture as follows:

## PART ONE.

### SECTION 1. Bonds of the 2.55% Series

**Section 1.1.** The Company hereby creates a new series of bonds to be issued under and secured by the Indenture and known as its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031 (herein called "bonds of the 2.55% Series") and the Company hereby establishes, determines and fixes the terms and provisions of the bonds of the 2.55% Series as hereinafter in this Section 1 set forth.

Each bond of the 2.55% Series shall be dated the date of its authentication (except that if any such bond shall be authenticated on any interest payment date, it shall be dated the following day) and interest shall be payable on the principal represented thereby commencing October 15, 2021, from April 15 or October 15, as the case may be, next preceding the date thereof to which interest has been paid, unless such date of authentication is prior to October 15, 2021, in which case interest shall be payable from April 1, 2021; provided, however, that interest shall be payable on each bond of the 2.55% Series authenticated after the record date (as defined in the next succeeding paragraph of this Section 1.1) with respect to any interest payment date and prior to such interest payment date, only from such interest payment date.

Interest on any bond of the 2.55% Series shall be paid to the person who, according to the bond register of the Company, is the registered holder of such bond of the 2.55% Series at the close of business on the applicable record date, and such interest payments shall be made by check mailed to such registered holder at his last address shown on such bond register or, at the option of the Company, by wire transfer at such place and to such account at a banking institution in the United States as may be designated in writing to the Trustee at least sixteen (16) days prior to the date of payment by the Person entitled thereto (provided, that if the bonds of the 2.55% Series are represented by Global Securities held by the Depositary, payment may be made pursuant to the procedures of the Depositary); provided, however, that, if the Company shall default in the payment of the interest due on any interest payment date on any bond of the 2.55% Series, such defaulted interest shall be paid to the registered holder of such bond (or any bond or bonds of the 2.55% Series issued upon transfer, exchange or substitution thereof) on the date of subsequent payment of such defaulted interest or, at the election of the Company, to the person in whose name such bond (or any bond or bonds of the 2.55% Series issued upon transfer, exchange or substitution thereof) is registered on a subsequent record date established by notice given by mail by or on behalf of the Company to the holders of all bonds of the 2.55% Series not less than ten (10) days preceding such subsequent record date. The term "record date" as used in this Section 1.1 shall mean, with respect to any semi-annual interest payment date, the close of business on (i) the business day immediately preceding such interest payment date so long as the bonds of the 2.55% Series remain in book-entry only form or (ii) the fifteenth calendar day immediately preceding such interest payment date if any of the bonds of the 2.55% Series do not remain in book-entry only form, in each case, whether or not a business day, or, in the case of a payment of defaulted interest, the close of business on any subsequent record date established as provided above.

**Section 1.2.** All bonds of the 2.55% Series shall mature as to principal on April 15, 2031 and shall bear interest at a rate of 2.55% per annum, payable semi-annually on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April and October in each year, commencing on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021. Interest on the bonds of the 2.55% Series will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

**Section 1.3.** The bonds of the 2.55% Series shall be fully registered bonds, without coupons, in denominations of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and integral multiples of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in excess thereof, all such bonds to be numbered, and shall be transferable and exchangeable as provided in the form of bond set forth as Exhibit A to this supplemental indenture. The provisions of §1.19 and any other provision in the Indenture in respect of coupon bonds or reservation of coupon bond numbers shall be inapplicable to the bonds of the 2.55% Series.

**Section 1.4.** At any time before January 15, 2031 (the “2031 Par Call Date”), the bonds of the 2.55% Series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of the 2.55% Series to be redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the bonds of the 2.55% Series being redeemed that would be due if the bonds of the 2.55% Series matured on the 2031 Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date) discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the bonds of the 2.55% Series being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption. The Company shall notify the Trustee of the redemption price with respect to any redemption pursuant to this paragraph promptly after the calculation thereof. The Trustee shall not be responsible for calculating said redemption price.

At any time on or after the 2031 Par Call Date, the bonds of the 2.55% Series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of the 2.55% Series to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption.

The bonds of the 2.55% Series are also subject to redemption through the operation of the Replacement Fund provided in Part Two of this supplemental indenture or through the application of moneys paid to the Trustee pursuant to the provisions of §5.05 of the Indenture, at any time or from time to time prior to maturity, upon prior notice as hereinafter provided, at the redemption prices specified in the fifth paragraph of the reverse side of the form of bond set forth as Exhibit A to this supplemental indenture, together with interest accrued thereon to the date fixed for redemption thereof.

In the event that any redemption date is not a business day, the Company shall pay the redemption price on the next business day without any interest or other payment due to the delay.



All such redemptions of bonds of the 2.55% Series shall be effected as provided in Article 3 of the Indenture except that, in case a part only of the bonds of the 2.55% Series is to be paid and redeemed, the particular bonds or part thereof shall be selected by the Trustee in such manner as the Trustee in its uncontrolled discretion shall determine to be fair and in any case where several bonds are registered in the same name, the Trustee may treat the aggregate principal amount so registered as if it were represented by one bond and except that when bonds are redeemed in part only the notice given to any particular holder need state only the principal amount of the bonds of that holder which is to be redeemed and except that notice to the holders of bonds to be redeemed shall be given by mailing to such holders a notice of such redemption, first class mail postage prepaid, not later than the tenth day, and not earlier than the sixtieth day, before the date fixed for redemption, at their last addresses as they shall appear upon the bond register of the Company. Any notice which is mailed in the manner herein provided shall be conclusively presumed to have been duly given, whether or not the holder receives such notice; and failure duly to give such notice by mail, or any defect in such notice, to the holder of any bond designated for redemption as a whole or in part shall not affect the validity of the proceedings for the redemption of any other bond. No publication of notice of such redemption shall be required.

**Section 1.5.** The limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the bonds of the 2.55% Series which may be authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture shall initially be \$550,000,000. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company may, without the consent of the holders of the bonds of the 2.55% Series, reopen the bonds of the 2.55% Series and issue an unlimited amount of additional bonds having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity and other terms (except for the price to the public, the issue date, and, if applicable, the initial interest accrual date and the first interest payment date) as the bonds of the 2.55% Series authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture; provided, that, the Company may reopen the bonds of the 2.55% Series only if the additional bonds issued will be fungible for United States federal income tax purposes with the bonds of the 2.55% Series authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture. Any such additional bonds will be consolidated with and form a single series of bonds under the Indenture with the bonds of the 2.55% Series authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture.

**Section 1.6.** The place or places of payment (as to principal and premium, if any, and interest), redemption, transfer, exchange and registration of the bonds of the 2.55% Series shall be the office or offices or the agency or agencies of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, designated from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Company (provided, that if the bonds of the 2.55% Series are represented by Global Securities held by or on behalf of the Depository, the procedures of the Depository may be followed for any action under this Section 1.6).

**Section 1.7.** The form of the bonds of the 2.55% Series and the certificate of the Trustee to be endorsed on such bonds, respectively, shall be in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

## **SECTION 2. Bonds of the 3.45% Series**

**Section 2.1.** The Company hereby creates a new series of bonds to be issued under and secured by the Indenture and known as its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051 (herein called "bonds of the 3.45% Series") and the Company hereby establishes, determines and fixes the terms and provisions of the bonds of the 3.45% Series as hereinafter in this Section 2 set forth.

Each bond of the 3.45% Series shall be dated the date of its authentication (except that if any such bond shall be authenticated on any interest payment date, it shall be dated the following day) and interest shall be payable on the principal represented thereby commencing October 15, 2021, from April 15 or October 15, as the case may be, next preceding the date thereof to which interest has been paid, unless such date of authentication is prior to October 15, 2021, in which case interest shall be payable from April 1, 2021; provided, however, that interest shall be payable on each bond of the 3.45% Series authenticated after the record date (as defined in the next succeeding paragraph of this Section 2.1) with respect to any interest payment date and prior to such interest payment date, only from such interest payment date.



Interest on any bond of the 3.45% Series shall be paid to the person who, according to the bond register of the Company, is the registered holder of such bond of the 3.45% Series at the close of business on the applicable record date, and such interest payments shall be made by check mailed to such registered holder at his last address shown on such bond register or, at the option of the Company, by wire transfer at such place and to such account at a banking institution in the United States as may be designated in writing to the Trustee at least sixteen (16) days prior to the date of payment by the Person entitled thereto (provided, that if the bonds of the 3.45% Series are represented by Global Securities held by the Depositary, payment may be made pursuant to the procedures of the Depositary); provided, however, that, if the Company shall default in the payment of the interest due on any interest payment date on any bond of the 3.45% Series, such defaulted interest shall be paid to the registered holder of such bond (or any bond or bonds of the 3.45% Series issued upon transfer, exchange or substitution thereof) on the date of subsequent payment of such defaulted interest or, at the election of the Company, to the person in whose name such bond (or any bond or bonds of the 3.45% Series issued upon transfer, exchange or substitution thereof) is registered on a subsequent record date established by notice given by mail by or on behalf of the Company to the holders of all bonds of the 3.45% Series not less than ten (10) days preceding such subsequent record date. The term "record date" as used in this Section 2.1 shall mean, with respect to any semi-annual interest payment date, the close of business on (i) the business day immediately preceding such interest payment date so long as the bonds of the 3.45% Series remain in book-entry only form or (ii) the fifteenth calendar day immediately preceding such interest payment date if any of the bonds of the 3.45% Series do not remain in book-entry only form, in each case, whether or not a business day, or, in the case of a payment of defaulted interest, the close of business on any subsequent record date established as provided above.

**Section 2.2.** All bonds of the 3.45% Series shall mature as to principal on April 15, 2051 and shall bear interest at a rate of 3.45% per annum, payable semi-annually on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April and October in each year, commencing on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021. Interest on the bonds of the 3.45% Series will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

**Section 2.3.** The bonds of the 3.45% Series shall be fully registered bonds, without coupons, in denominations of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) and integral multiples of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in excess thereof, all such bonds to be numbered, and shall be transferable and exchangeable as provided in the form of bond set forth as Exhibit B to this supplemental indenture. The provisions of §1.19 and any other provision in the Indenture in respect of coupon bonds or reservation of coupon bond numbers shall be inapplicable to the bonds of the 3.45% Series.

**Section 2.4.** At any time before October 15, 2050 (the "2051 Par Call Date"), the bonds of the 3.45% Series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of the 3.45% Series to be redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the bonds of the 3.45% Series being redeemed that would be due if the bonds of the 3.45% Series matured on the 2051 Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date) discounted to the redemption date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 20 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the bonds of the 3.45% Series being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption. The Company shall notify the Trustee of the redemption price with respect to any redemption pursuant to this paragraph promptly after the calculation thereof. The Trustee shall not be responsible for calculating said redemption price.

At any time on or after the 2051 Par Call Date, the bonds of the 3.45% Series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of the 3.45% Series to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption.

The bonds of the 3.45% Series are also subject to redemption through the operation of the Replacement Fund provided in Part Two of this supplemental indenture or through the application of moneys paid to the Trustee pursuant to the provisions of §5.05 of the Indenture, at any time or from time to time prior to maturity, upon prior notice as hereinafter provided, at the redemption prices specified in the fifth paragraph of the reverse side of the form of bond set forth as Exhibit B to this supplemental indenture, together with interest accrued thereon to the date fixed for redemption thereof.

In the event that any redemption date is not a business day, the Company shall pay the redemption price on the next business day without any interest or other payment due to the delay.

All such redemptions of bonds of the 3.45% Series shall be effected as provided in Article 3 of the Indenture except that, in case a part only of the bonds of the 3.45% Series is to be paid and redeemed, the particular bonds or part thereof shall be selected by the Trustee in such manner as the Trustee in its uncontrolled discretion shall determine to be fair and in any case where several bonds are registered in the same name, the Trustee may treat the aggregate principal amount so registered as if it were represented by one bond and except that when bonds are redeemed in part only the notice given to any particular holder need state only the principal amount of the bonds of that holder which is to be redeemed and except that notice to the holders of bonds to be redeemed shall be given by mailing to such holders a notice of such redemption, first class mail postage prepaid, not later than the tenth day, and not earlier than the sixtieth day, before the date fixed for redemption, at their last addresses as they shall appear upon the bond register of the Company. Any notice which is mailed in the manner herein provided shall be conclusively presumed to have been duly given, whether or not the holder receives such notice; and failure duly to give such notice by mail, or any defect in such notice, to the holder of any bond designated for redemption as a whole or in part shall not affect the validity of the proceedings for the redemption of any other bond. No publication of notice of such redemption shall be required.

**Section 2.5.** The limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the bonds of the 3.45% Series which may be authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture shall initially be \$450,000,000. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Company may, without the consent of the holders of the bonds of the 3.45% Series, reopen the bonds of the 3.45% Series and issue an unlimited amount of additional bonds having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity and other terms (except for the price to the public, the issue date, and, if applicable, the initial interest accrual date and the first interest payment date) as the bonds of the 3.45% Series authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture; provided, that, the Company may reopen the bonds of the 3.45% Series only if the additional bonds issued will be fungible for United States federal income tax purposes with the bonds of the 3.45% Series authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture. Any such additional bonds will be consolidated with and form a single series of bonds under the Indenture with the bonds of the 3.45% Series authenticated and delivered pursuant to this supplemental indenture.

**Section 2.6.** The place or places of payment (as to principal and premium, if any, and interest), redemption, transfer, exchange and registration of the bonds of the 3.45% Series shall be the office or offices or the agency or agencies of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, designated from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Company (provided, that if the bonds of the 3.45% Series are represented by Global Securities held by or on behalf of the Depository, the procedures of the Depository may be followed for any action under this Section 2.6).

**Section 2.7.** The form of the bonds of the 3.45% Series and the certificate of the Trustee to be endorsed on such bonds, respectively, shall be in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit B hereto.

## **PART TWO.**

### **REPLACEMENT FUND.**

**SECTION 1.** So long as any of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are outstanding, the Company will continue to maintain the Replacement Fund set forth in, and in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions now contained in, Part Two of the supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1949, and the covenants on the part of the Company contained in such Part Two shall continue and remain in full force and effect, whether or not bonds of the 1979 Series are outstanding and to the same extent as though the words “or any bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series” were inserted after the word “Series” appearing in the second line of Section 1 and the second line of Section 4 of said Part Two of said supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1949.

**SECTION 2.** If at any time (a) any of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are outstanding and (b) no Outstanding Mortgage Bonds (as defined in Section 1 of Part Three of this supplemental indenture) entitled to the benefit of the Replacement Fund are outstanding and (c) cash which shall have been deposited with the Trustee pursuant to such Replacement Fund shall not within five years from the date of deposit thereof have been paid out, or used or set aside by the Trustee for the payment, purchase or redemption of bonds, pursuant to such Replacement Fund, such cash shall, if in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), be applied to the redemption of bonds of the 2.55% Series and the 3.45% Series on a pro rata basis as between such series in an aggregate principal amount sufficient to exhaust as nearly as possible the full amount of such cash. Anything in Section 5 of Part Two of the aforesaid supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1949, in Section 3 of Part Two of the supplemental indentures dated as of May 1, 1993, July 1, 1993, August 1, 1993, August 20, 1993, May 1, 1994, February 25, 2003, March 21, 2003 and September 23, 2003, in Section 3 of Part Three of the supplemental indenture dated as of March 1, 1990 and in Section 5 of Part Four of the supplemental indenture dated as of March 1, 1993 to the contrary notwithstanding, no cash shall be paid over to the Company thereunder if at the time any bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are then outstanding, and such cash shall in such event be applied as in this Part Two set forth.

**SECTION 3.** Whenever all of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series and all of the Outstanding Mortgage Bonds entitled to the benefit of the Replacement Fund shall have been paid, purchased or redeemed, the Trustee shall, upon application of the Company, pay to or upon the order of the Company all cash theretofore deposited with the Trustee pursuant to the provisions of the Replacement Fund and not previously disposed of pursuant to the provisions of the Replacement Fund, and shall deliver to the Company any bonds which shall theretofore have been deposited with the Trustee pursuant to the provisions of the Replacement Fund or paid, purchased or redeemed pursuant to the provisions of the Replacement Fund.

## **PART THREE.**

### **ADDITIONAL COVENANTS OF THE COMPANY**

**SECTION 1.** Whether or not the covenants on the part of the Company contained in Part Three of the supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1949 are modified with the consent of the holders of bonds of the 2027 City of Greensboro Series, the 6.00% Series, the 6.05% Series, the 2040 Series, the 2020 Series, the 2010C Solid Waste Disposal Series, the 2010D Solid Waste Disposal Series, the 3.90% Series, the 4.25% Series or the 4.00% Series (collectively, the “Outstanding Mortgage Bonds”), such covenants on the part of the Company contained in said Part Three shall continue and remain in full force and effect so long as any of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are outstanding and to the same extent as though the words “or so long as any bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are outstanding” were inserted after the words “so long as any of the bonds of the 1979 Series or any bonds of the 2.65% Series are outstanding” wherever such words appear in said Part Three of the supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1949.

**SECTION 2.** Whether or not the second sentence of paragraph (a) of §2.08 of the original indenture (making certain provisions for the definition of the term “net amount” applicable while bonds of the 2.65% Series were outstanding and which was originally set forth in Section 4 of Article One of the supplemental indenture dated as of September 1, 1947 and which is corrected and clarified by Section 2 of Part Four of the supplemental indenture dated as of February 1, 1968) is modified with the consent of the holders of any of the Outstanding Mortgage Bonds, said sentence shall continue and remain in full force and effect so long as any bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are outstanding, and with the same force and effect as though said sentence had stated that such provisions were to be applicable so long as any of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series are outstanding.

#### **PART FOUR.**

#### **GLOBAL SECURITIES; TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE**

**SECTION 1.** The bonds of the 2.55% Series shall initially be issued in the form of one or more Global Securities registered in the name of the Depositary (which initially shall be The Depositary Trust Company) or its nominee. Except under the limited circumstances described below, bonds of the 2.55% Series represented by such Global Security or Global Securities shall not be exchangeable for, and shall not otherwise be issuable as, bonds of the 2.55% Series in definitive form. The Global Securities described in this Part Four may not be transferred except by the Depositary to a nominee of the Depositary or by a nominee of the Depositary to the Depositary or another nominee of the Depositary or to a successor Depositary or its nominee.

None of the Company, the Trustee nor any agent of the Company or the Trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests of a Global Security or maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

A Global Security shall be exchangeable for bonds of the 2.55% Series registered in the names of persons other than the Depositary or its nominee only if (i) the Depositary notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a Depositary for such Global Security and no successor Depositary shall have been appointed by the Company within 90 days of receipt by the Company of such notification, or if at any time the Depositary ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act at a time when the Depositary is required to be so registered to act as such Depositary and no successor Depositary shall have been appointed by the Company within 90 days after it becomes aware of such cessation, (ii) an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the bonds of the 2.55% Series or (iii) the Company in its sole discretion, and subject to the procedures of the Depositary, determines that such Global Security shall be so exchangeable. Any Global Security that is exchangeable pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be exchangeable for bonds of the 2.55% Series registered in such names as the Depositary shall direct.

**SECTION 2.** The bonds of the 3.45% Series shall initially be issued in the form of one or more Global Securities registered in the name of the Depositary (which initially shall be The Depositary Trust Company) or its nominee. Except under the limited circumstances described below, bonds of the 3.45% Series represented by such Global Security or Global Securities shall not be exchangeable for, and shall not otherwise be issuable as, bonds of the 3.45% Series in definitive form. The Global Securities described in this Part Four may not be transferred except by the Depositary to a nominee of the Depositary or by a nominee of the Depositary to the Depositary or another nominee of the Depositary or to a successor Depositary or its nominee.

None of the Company, the Trustee nor any agent of the Company or the Trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests of a Global Security or maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

A Global Security shall be exchangeable for bonds of the 3.45% Series registered in the names of persons other than the Depositary or its nominee only if (i) the Depositary notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a Depositary for such Global Security and no successor Depositary shall have been appointed by the Company within 90 days of receipt by the Company of such notification, or if at any time the Depositary ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act at a time when the Depositary is required to be so registered to act as such Depositary and no successor Depositary shall have been appointed by the Company within 90 days after it becomes aware of such cessation, (ii) an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the bonds of the 3.45% Series or (iii) the Company in its sole discretion, and subject to the procedures of the Depositary, determines that such Global Security shall be so exchangeable. Any Global Security that is exchangeable pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be exchangeable for bonds of the 3.45% Series registered in such names as the Depositary shall direct.

**SECTION 3.** Depository Legend. Each of the Global Securities shall bear the following legend (the “Depository Legend”) on the face thereof:

“UNLESS THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPOSITORY TRUST COMPANY, A NEW YORK CORPORATION (“DTC”), NEW YORK, NEW YORK, TO THE COMPANY OR ITS AGENT FOR REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER, EXCHANGE OR PAYMENT, AND ANY CERTIFICATE ISSUED IS REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF CEDE & CO. OR IN SUCH OTHER NAME AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC (AND ANY PAYMENT IS MADE TO CEDE & CO. OR TO SUCH OTHER ENTITY AS IS REQUESTED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF DTC), ANY TRANSFER, PLEDGE OR OTHER USE HEREOF FOR VALUE OR OTHERWISE BY OR TO ANY PERSON IS WRONGFUL INASMUCH AS THE REGISTERED OWNER HEREOF, CEDE & CO., HAS AN INTEREST HEREIN.

TRANSFERS OF THIS GLOBAL SECURITY SHALL BE LIMITED TO TRANSFERS IN WHOLE, BUT NOT IN PART, TO DTC, TO NOMINEES OF DTC OR TO A SUCCESSOR THEREOF OR SUCH SUCCESSOR’S NOMINEE AND TRANSFERS OF PORTIONS OF THIS GLOBAL SECURITY SHALL BE LIMITED TO TRANSFERS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH IN THE INDENTURE REFERRED TO ON THE REVERSE HEREOF.”

**SECTION 4.** Transfer and Exchange.

(a) Every bond of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series presented or surrendered for registration of transfer or for exchange shall (if so required by the Company or the Trustee) be duly endorsed, or be accompanied by a written instrument of transfer in form satisfactory to the Company and the Trustee duly executed, by the Holder thereof or his attorney duly authorized in writing.

(b) No service charge shall be made for any registration of transfer or exchange of bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series, but the Company may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in connection with any registration or transfer or exchange of bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series.

**SECTION 5. Definitions.** The following defined terms used herein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings specified below. Capitalized terms used herein for which no definition is provided herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Indenture.

“Business day” means any day other than a day on which banks in New York City are required or authorized to be closed.

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means the United States Treasury security selected by the Quotation Agent as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the applicable bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series to be redeemed (assuming, for this purpose, that the bonds of the 2.55% Series matured on the 2031 Par Call Date and the bonds of the 3.45% Series matured on the 2051 Par Call Date), that would be utilized at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of a comparable maturity to the remaining term of such bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means, with respect to any redemption date, (A) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (B) if the Quotation Agent obtains fewer than four of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations as determined by the Company.

“Depository” means a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act that is designated to act as Depository for the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series, which Depository shall initially be The Depository Trust Company.

“Depository Legend” means a legend set forth in Section 2 of this Part Four.

“Exchange Act” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

“Global Security” means a bond of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series in global form.

“Holder” means a Person in whose name a bond of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series is registered in the registration books maintained by the Trustee.

“Person” means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company or corporation, joint venture, trust, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

“Quotation Agent” means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by the Company.

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of (i) BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, and (ii) a Primary Treasury Dealer (as defined below) selected by each of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Truist Securities, Inc.; or, in each case, their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in the United States (a “Primary Treasury Dealer”); provided, however, that if any of the foregoing or their affiliates or successors shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer.



“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Quotation Agent, of the bid and asked prices for the applicable Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Quotation Agent by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any redemption date, the rate per annum equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity or interpolated maturity (on a day count basis) of the applicable Comparable Treasury Issue, assuming a price for such Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the applicable Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date.

## PART FIVE.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### SECTION 1.

(a) For the purposes of §2.10 of the Indenture and for the purposes of any modification of the provisions of the Replacement Fund referred to in Part Two of this supplemental indenture, the covenants and provisions on the part of the Company which are set forth or incorporated in Part Two of this supplemental indenture shall be for the benefit only of the holders of the bonds of the 2.55% Series and the 3.45% Series. Such covenants and provisions shall remain in force and be applicable only so long as any bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series shall be outstanding, and, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of §10.01 of the Indenture, any such covenants and provisions may be modified with respect to the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series with the consent, in writing or by vote at a bondholders’ meeting of the holders of sixty-six and two-thirds per cent (66 2/3%) of the principal amount of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series, as the case may be, at the time outstanding and without the consent of the holders of any other bonds then outstanding under the Indenture; provided that no such consent shall be effective to waive any past default under such covenants and provisions, and its consequences, unless the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of all bonds then outstanding under the Indenture is obtained. Such covenants shall be deemed to be additional covenants and none of them shall affect or derogate from, or relieve the Company from, its obligation to comply with any of the other covenants, conditions, requirements or provisions of the Indenture or any other supplemental indenture.

(b) For the purposes of §2.10 of the Indenture and for the purposes of any modification of the provisions of Part Three of this supplemental indenture, the covenants and provisions on the part of the Company which are set forth or incorporated in said Part Three shall be for the benefit only of the holders of the bonds of the 2.55% Series and the 3.45% Series. Such covenants and provisions shall remain in force and be applicable only so long as any bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series shall be outstanding, and, subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of §10.01 of the Indenture, any such covenants and provisions may be modified with respect to the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series with the consent, in writing or by vote at a bondholders’ meeting of the holders of sixty-six and two-thirds per cent (66 2/3 %) of the principal amount of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series, as the case may be, at the time outstanding and without the consent of the holders of any other bonds then outstanding under the Indenture; provided that no such consent shall be effective to waive any past default under such covenants and provisions, and its consequences, unless the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of all bonds then outstanding under the Indenture is obtained. Such covenants shall be deemed to be additional covenants and none of them shall affect or derogate from, or relieve the Company from, its obligation to comply with any of the other covenants, conditions, requirements or provisions of the Indenture or any other supplemental indenture.



**SECTION 2.** All terms contained in this supplemental indenture shall, except as specifically provided herein or except as the context may otherwise require, have the meanings given to such terms in the Indenture.

**SECTION 3.** In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this supplemental indenture should be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision contained in this supplemental indenture, and, to the extent, but only to the extent, that such provision is invalid, illegal or unenforceable, this supplemental indenture shall be construed as if such provision had never been contained herein.

**SECTION 4.** The Trustee hereby accepts the trusts herein declared and provided upon the terms and conditions in the Indenture set forth.

**SECTION 5.** This supplemental indenture may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be an original, and all collectively but one instrument. The words "execution," "signed," "signature," and words of like import in the Indenture shall include images of manually executed signatures transmitted by facsimile, email or other electronic format (including, without limitation, "pdf," "tif" or "jpg") and other electronic signatures (including without limitation, DocuSign and AdobeSign). The use of electronic signatures and electronic records (including, without limitation, any contract or other record created, generated, sent, communicated, received, or stored by electronic means) shall be of the same legal effect, validity and enforceability as a manually executed signature or use of a paper-based record-keeping system to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, including the Federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, the New York State Electronic Signatures and Records Act and any other applicable law, including, without limitation, any state law based on the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act or the Uniform Commercial Code. Without limitation to the foregoing, and anything in the Indenture to the contrary notwithstanding, (a) any officers' certificate, Opinion of Counsel, Trustee's Certificate, Engineer's Certificate, Net Earnings Certificate, bond, certificate of authentication appearing on or attached to any bond, or other certificate, opinion of counsel, instrument, agreement or other document delivered pursuant to the Indenture may be executed, attested and transmitted by any of the foregoing electronic means and formats, (b) all references in Article Two or elsewhere in the Indenture to the execution, attestation or authentication of any bond or any certificate of authentication appearing on or attached to any bond by means of a manual or facsimile signature shall be deemed to include signatures that are made or transmitted by any of the foregoing electronic means or formats, and (c) any requirement in Article Two or elsewhere in the Indenture that any signature be made under a corporate seal (or facsimile thereof) shall not be applicable to the bonds of the 2.55% Series and the bonds of the 3.45% Series.

**SECTION 6.** In addition to the amendment provisions of the Indenture, the terms and conditions of this supplemental indenture and the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series may be modified, amended or supplemented by the Company and the Trustee, without the consent of the holders of the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series, and if not inconsistent with the Indenture, to cure ambiguities in this supplemental indenture or the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series, or correct defects or inconsistencies in the provisions of this supplemental indenture or the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series or to provide for such appropriate additional provisions in this supplemental indenture or the bonds of the 2.55% Series or the 3.45% Series as are necessary for certificated bonds to be issued in lieu of Global Securities or to reflect additional provisions related to the issuance of Global Securities (including changes in the procedures of the Depositary).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, the party of the first part hereto, has caused this supplemental indenture to be signed in its name by one of its Senior Vice Presidents and its company seal to be hereunto affixed, and the same to be attested by one of its Assistant Secretaries, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., the party of the second part hereto, in token of its acceptance of the trust hereby created, has caused this supplemental indenture to be signed in its name by one of its Vice Presidents and its company seal to be hereunto affixed, and the same to be attested by one of its Vice Presidents, all as of the day and year first above written.

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

By: /s/ Karl W. Newlin

Name: Karl W. Newlin

Title: Senior Vice President, Corporate Development and  
Treasurer

ATTEST:

/s/ Robert T. Lucas III

Name: Robert T. Lucas III

Title: Assistant Secretary

Signed, sealed, executed, acknowledged  
and delivered by Duke Energy  
Carolinas, LLC, in the presence of:

/s/ Carol Melendez

Carol Melendez

/s/ Nancy M. Wright

Nancy M. Wright

[COMPANY'S SIGNATURE PAGE]

[ONE-HUNDRED AND FIFTH SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE  
TO THE DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE  
DATED AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1927]

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A.,  
as Trustee

By: /s/ Nathan Turner  
Name: Nathan Turner  
Title: Vice President

ATTEST:

/s/ Michele R. Shrum  
Name: Michele R. Shrum  
Title: Vice President

Signed, sealed, executed,  
acknowledged and delivered by The Bank of New York  
Mellon Trust Company, N.A.,  
in the presence of:

/s/ Bert J. Millis  
Name: Bert J. Millis

/s/ Cindy Sheldon  
Name: Cindy Sheldon

[TRUSTEE'S SIGNATURE PAGE]

[ONE-HUNDRED AND FIFTH SUPPLEMENTAL INDENTURE  
TO THE DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE  
DATED AS OF DECEMBER 1, 1927]

State of Florida       )  
                                  ) ss.:  
County of Duval       )

Personally appeared before me, Bert J. Mills, and made oath that he is not a party to or beneficiary of the transaction and that he saw Nathan Turner, a Vice President and Michele R. Shrum, a Vice President, respectively, of The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., sign, attest and affix hereto the corporate seal of said The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., and, as the act and deed of said corporation, deliver the within written and foregoing deed, and that he, with Cindy Sheldon, witnessed the execution thereof.

Sworn and subscribed before me  
this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2021.

/s/ Xayyavone Gillmore

Xayyavone Gillmore  
Notary Public – State of Florida  
Commission Expires 8/10/2024

State of Florida       )  
                                  ) ss.:  
County of Duval       )

I, Xayyavone Gillmore, a Notary Public in and for the State aforesaid, certify that Michele R. Shrum personally came before me this day and acknowledged that she is a Vice President of The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., a national banking association, and that, by authority duly given and as the act of the corporation, the foregoing instrument was signed in its name by one of its Vice Presidents, sealed with its corporate seal, and attested by himself as one of its Vice Presidents.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2021.

/s/ Xayyavone Gillmore

Name: Xayyavone Gillmore  
Notary Public – State of Florida  
Commission Expires 8/10/2024

State of North  
Carolina                    )  
                                  ) ss.:  
  
County of  
Mecklenburg                )

I, Jenny Pattana, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, certify that Carol Melendez personally appeared before me this day, and being duly sworn, stated that she is not a party to or beneficiary of the transaction and that in her presence Karl W. Newlin, Senior Vice President, Corporate Development and Treasurer of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, executed the foregoing instrument, and that she, with Jenny Pattana, witnessed the execution thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2021.

/s/ Carol Melendez  
Carol Melendez

/s/ Jenny Pattana  
Name: Jenny Pattana  
Notary Public, State of North Carolina  
Mecklenburg County  
My Commission Expires: June 8, 2025

State of North  
Carolina                    )  
                                  ) ss.:  
  
County of  
Mecklenburg                )

I, Jenny Pattana, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, certify that Robert T. Lucas III personally came before me this day and acknowledged that he is an Assistant Secretary of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company, and that, by authority duly given and as the act of the company, the foregoing instrument was signed in its name by one of its Senior Vice Presidents, sealed with its seal, and attested by himself as one of its Assistant Secretaries.

Witness my hand and official seal, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2021.

/s/ Jenny Pattana  
Name: Jenny Pattana  
Notary Public, State of North Carolina  
Mecklenburg County  
My Commission Expires: June 8, 2025

## EXHIBIT A

FORM OF DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC  
FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BOND, 2.55% SERIES DUE 2031

[FACE SIDE OF BOND]

[DEPOSITORY LEGEND, IF APPLICABLE]  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLCFIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BOND,  
2.55% SERIES DUE 2031

No. \$  
CUSIP 26442C BB9  
No.  
ISIN US26442CBB90

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company (hereinafter called the "Company"), for value received, hereby promises to pay to or registered assigns, the principal sum of Dollars on April 15, 2031 in any coin or currency of the United States of America which at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts, at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, and to pay interest thereon at said office or agency from the interest payment date next preceding the date hereof to which interest on outstanding bonds of this series has been paid (unless the date hereof is prior to October 15, 2021, in which case from April 1, 2021, and unless the date hereof is subsequent to a record date (as defined below) and prior to the next succeeding April 15 or October 15, in which case from the next succeeding April 15 or October 15 as the case may be), at the rate of 2.55% per annum, in like coin or currency, semi-annually on April 15 and October 15, in each year, commencing October 15, 2021, until the principal hereof shall become due and payable. Such interest payments shall be made to the person in whose name this bond is registered at the close of business on the record date (as defined below) for such interest payment date, which will be the close of business on (i) the business day immediately preceding such interest payment date so long as the bonds of the 2.55% Series remain in book-entry only form or (ii) the fifteenth calendar day, whether or not a business day, immediately preceding such interest payment date if any of the bonds of the 2.55% Series do not remain in book-entry only form (each of (i) or (ii), a "record date") (subject to certain exceptions provided in the Indenture hereinafter mentioned), at his last address as it shall appear upon the bond register of the Company.

The provisions of this bond are continued on the reverse hereof and such continued provisions shall for all purposes have the same effect as though fully set forth in this place.

This bond shall not become or be valid or obligatory for any purpose until the Trustee shall have signed the form of certificate endorsed hereon.

A-1

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be signed in its name by its President or one of its Vice Presidents, manually or by facsimile signature, and its company seal to be hereto affixed, or a facsimile thereof to be hereon engraved, lithographed or printed, and to be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of its Secretary or one of its Assistant Secretaries.

Dated:

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:

Title:

\_\_\_\_\_  
A-2



## CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This bond is one of the bonds, of the series designated therein, described in the within-mentioned Indenture.

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as Trustee

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signatory

A-3

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## [REVERSE SIDE OF BOND]

This bond is one of the bonds of a series, designated specially as First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 2.55% Series due 2031, of an authorized issue of bonds of the Company, without limit as to aggregate principal amount, designated generally as First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, all issued and to be issued under and equally and ratably secured by a First and Refunding Mortgage dated as of December 1, 1927, duly executed by Duke Power Company, a New Jersey corporation (hereinafter called the "New Jersey Company"), to Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Trustee (The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor trustee), as supplemented and modified by indentures supplemental thereto, including a supplemental indenture dated as of April 1, 2021 providing for said series (said First and Refunding Mortgage as so supplemented and modified being hereinafter referred to as the "Indenture"), to which Indenture reference is made for a description of the property mortgaged, the nature and extent of the security, the rights of the holders of the bonds in respect thereof, the terms and conditions upon which the bonds are secured and the restrictions subject to which additional bonds secured thereby may be issued. To the extent permitted by, and as provided in, the Indenture, modifications or alterations of the Indenture, or of any indenture supplemental thereto, and of the rights and obligations of the Company and of the holders of the bonds, may be made with the consent of the Company by the affirmative vote, or with the written consent, of the holders of not less than 66 2/3% in principal amount of the bonds then outstanding, and by the affirmative vote, or with the written consent, of the holders of not less than 66 2/3% in principal amount of the bonds of any series then outstanding and affected by such modification or alteration, in case one or more but less than all of the series of bonds then outstanding under the Indenture are so affected, evidenced, in each case, as provided in the Indenture; provided that any supplemental indenture may be modified in accordance with the provisions contained therein for its modification; and provided, further, that no such modification or alteration shall be made which will affect the terms of payment of the principal of, or interest or premium on, this bond, or the right of any bondholder to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the respective due dates expressed in this bond, or reduce the percentage required for the taking of any such action. Any such affirmative vote of, or written consent given by, any holder of this bond is binding upon all subsequent holders hereof as provided in the Indenture.

In case an event of default as defined in the Indenture shall occur, the principal of all the bonds outstanding thereunder may become or be declared due and payable at the time, in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

At any time before January 15, 2031 (the "Par Call Date"), the bonds of this series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of this series to be redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on such bonds being redeemed that would be due if the bonds of this series matured on the Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date), discounted to the redemption date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the bonds of this series being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption.

At any time on or after the Par Call Date, the bonds of this series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of this series to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption.

"Business day" means any day other than a day on which banks in New York City are required or authorized to be closed.

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means the United States Treasury security selected by the Quotation Agent as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the bonds of this series to be redeemed (assuming, for this purpose, that the bonds of this series matured on the Par Call Date), that would be utilized at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of a comparable maturity to the remaining term of such bonds.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means, with respect to any redemption date, (A) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (B) if the Quotation Agent obtains fewer than four of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations as determined by the Company.

“Quotation Agent” means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by the Company.

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of (i) BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, and (ii) a Primary Treasury Dealer (as defined below) selected by each of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Truist Securities, Inc.; or, in each case, their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in the United States (a “Primary Treasury Dealer”); provided, however, that if any of the foregoing or their affiliates or successors shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer.

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Quotation Agent, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Quotation Agent by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any redemption date, the rate per annum equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity or interpolated maturity (on a day count basis) of the Comparable Treasury Issue, assuming a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date.

The bonds of this series are also subject to redemption for the Replacement Fund for bonds of this series provided for in the supplemental indenture dated as of April 1, 2021, providing for this series, or upon application of moneys arising from a taking of any of the mortgaged property by eminent domain or similar action, at any time or from time to time prior to maturity, at 100% of their principal amount, in each case together with accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date fixed for redemption.

Redemption is in every case to be effected at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, upon at least ten, but not more than sixty, days’ prior notice, given by mail as more fully provided in the Indenture.

If this bond or any portion hereof (\$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof) is called for redemption and payment is duly provided, this bond or such portion thereof shall cease to bear interest from and after the date fixed for such redemption.

This bond is transferable, as provided in the Indenture, by the registered owner hereof in person or by duly authorized attorney, at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, upon surrender and cancellation of this bond, and thereupon a new bond of the same series and of like aggregate principal amount will be issued to the transferee in exchange herefor as provided in the Indenture; or the registered owner of this bond, at his option, may surrender the same for cancellation at said office or agency of the Company and receive in exchange herefor the same aggregate principal amount of bonds of the same series of authorized denominations; all subject to the terms of the Indenture but without payment of any charges other than a sum sufficient to reimburse the Company for any stamp taxes or other governmental charges incident thereto.

This bond is a company obligation only and no recourse whatsoever, either directly or through the Company or any trustee, receiver, assignee or any other person, shall be had for the payment of the principal of or premium, if any, or interest on this bond, or for the enforcement of any claim based hereon, or otherwise in respect hereof or of the Indenture, against any promoter, subscriber to the capital stock, incorporator, or any past, present or future stockholder, member, officer or director of the Company as such, or of any successor or predecessor corporation or entity, whether by virtue of any constitutional provision, statute or rule of law, or by the enforcement of any assessment, penalty, subscription or otherwise, any and all such liability of promoters, subscribers, incorporators, stockholders, members, officers and directors being waived and released by each successive holder hereof by the acceptance of this bond, and as a part of the consideration for the issue hereof, and being likewise waived and released by the terms of the Indenture.

[END OF BOND FORM]

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A-6

## ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations, when used in the inscription on the face of this instrument, shall be construed as though they were written out in full according to applicable laws or regulations:

TEN COM — as tenants in common

UNIF GIFT MIN ACT - \_\_\_\_\_ Custodian \_\_\_\_\_  
(Cust) (Minor)

TEN ENT — as tenants by the entireties

JT TEN — as joint tenants with rights of survivorship and not as tenants in common

under Uniform Gifts to Minors Act

\_\_\_\_\_  
(State)

Additional abbreviations may also be used though not on the above list.

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sell(s) and transfer(s) unto (please insert Social Security or other identifying number of assignee)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPEWRITE NAME AND ADDRESS, INCLUDING POSTAL ZIP CODE OF ASSIGNEE

the within bond and all rights thereunder, hereby irrevocably constituting and appointing agent to transfer said bond on the books of the Company, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE: The signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of the within instrument in every particular without alteration or enlargement, or any change whatever.

Signature

Guarantee: \_\_\_\_\_

A-7

## SIGNATURE GUARANTEE

Signatures must be guaranteed by an “eligible guarantor institution” meeting the requirements of the Trustee, which requirements include membership or participation in the Security Transfer Agent Medallion Program (“STAMP”) or such other “signature guarantee program” as may be determined by the Trustee in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, all in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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A-8

## EXHIBIT B

FORM OF DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC  
FIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BOND, 3.45% SERIES DUE 2051

[FACE SIDE OF BOND]

[DEPOSITORY LEGEND, IF APPLICABLE]  
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLCFIRST AND REFUNDING MORTGAGE BOND,  
3.45% SERIES DUE 2051

No. \$  
CUSIP No. 26442C BC7  
ISIN US26442CBC73

Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC, a North Carolina limited liability company (hereinafter called the "Company"), for value received, hereby promises to pay to or registered assigns, the principal sum of Dollars on April 15, 2051 in any coin or currency of the United States of America which at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts, at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, and to pay interest thereon at said office or agency from the interest payment date next preceding the date hereof to which interest on outstanding bonds of this series has been paid (unless the date hereof is prior to October 15, 2021, in which case from April 1, 2021, and unless the date hereof is subsequent to a record date (as defined below) and prior to the next succeeding April 15 or October 15, in which case from the next succeeding April 15 or October 15 as the case may be), at the rate of 3.45% per annum, in like coin or currency, semi-annually on April 15 and October 15, in each year, commencing October 15, 2021, until the principal hereof shall become due and payable. Such interest payments shall be made to the person in whose name this bond is registered at the close of business on the record date (as defined below) for such interest payment date, which will be the close of business on (i) the business day immediately preceding such interest payment date so long as the bonds of the 3.45% Series remain in book-entry only form or (ii) the fifteenth calendar day, whether or not a business day, immediately preceding such interest payment date if any of the bonds of the 3.45% Series do not remain in book-entry only form (each of (i) or (ii), a "record date") (subject to certain exceptions provided in the Indenture hereinafter mentioned), at his last address as it shall appear upon the bond register of the Company.

The provisions of this bond are continued on the reverse hereof and such continued provisions shall for all purposes have the same effect as though fully set forth in this place.

This bond shall not become or be valid or obligatory for any purpose until the Trustee shall have signed the form of certificate endorsed hereon.

B-1



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this instrument to be signed in its name by its President or one of its Vice Presidents, manually or by facsimile signature, and its company seal to be hereto affixed, or a facsimile thereof to be hereon engraved, lithographed or printed, and to be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of its Secretary or one of its Assistant Secretaries.

Dated:

DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:

Title:

\_\_\_\_\_  
B-2

## CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This bond is one of the bonds, of the series designated therein, described in the within-mentioned Indenture.

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A.,  
as Trustee

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signatory

B-3

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## [REVERSE SIDE OF BOND]

This bond is one of the bonds of a series, designated specially as First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, 3.45% Series due 2051, of an authorized issue of bonds of the Company, without limit as to aggregate principal amount, designated generally as First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds, all issued and to be issued under and equally and ratably secured by a First and Refunding Mortgage dated as of December 1, 1927, duly executed by Duke Power Company, a New Jersey corporation (hereinafter called the "New Jersey Company"), to Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Trustee (The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor trustee), as supplemented and modified by indentures supplemental thereto, including a supplemental indenture dated as of April 1, 2021 providing for said series (said First and Refunding Mortgage as so supplemented and modified being hereinafter referred to as the "Indenture"), to which Indenture reference is made for a description of the property mortgaged, the nature and extent of the security, the rights of the holders of the bonds in respect thereof, the terms and conditions upon which the bonds are secured and the restrictions subject to which additional bonds secured thereby may be issued. To the extent permitted by, and as provided in, the Indenture, modifications or alterations of the Indenture, or of any indenture supplemental thereto, and of the rights and obligations of the Company and of the holders of the bonds, may be made with the consent of the Company by the affirmative vote, or with the written consent, of the holders of not less than 66 2/3% in principal amount of the bonds then outstanding, and by the affirmative vote, or with the written consent, of the holders of not less than 66 2/3% in principal amount of the bonds of any series then outstanding and affected by such modification or alteration, in case one or more but less than all of the series of bonds then outstanding under the Indenture are so affected, evidenced, in each case, as provided in the Indenture; provided that any supplemental indenture may be modified in accordance with the provisions contained therein for its modification; and provided, further, that no such modification or alteration shall be made which will affect the terms of payment of the principal of, or interest or premium on, this bond, or the right of any bondholder to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment on or after the respective due dates expressed in this bond, or reduce the percentage required for the taking of any such action. Any such affirmative vote of, or written consent given by, any holder of this bond is binding upon all subsequent holders hereof as provided in the Indenture.

In case an event of default as defined in the Indenture shall occur, the principal of all the bonds outstanding thereunder may become or be declared due and payable at the time, in the manner and with the effect provided in the Indenture.

At any time before October 15, 2050 (the "Par Call Date"), the bonds of this series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of this series to be redeemed and (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on such bonds being redeemed that would be due if the bonds of this series matured on the Par Call Date (exclusive of interest accrued to the redemption date), discounted to the redemption date on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus 20 basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the bonds of this series being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption.

At any time on or after the Par Call Date, the bonds of this series may be redeemed at the option of the Company, in whole or in part and from time to time, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the bonds of this series to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of such redemption.

"Business day" means any day other than a day on which banks in New York City are required or authorized to be closed.

“Comparable Treasury Issue” means the United States Treasury security selected by the Quotation Agent as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the bonds of this series to be redeemed (assuming, for this purpose, that the bonds of this series matured on the Par Call Date), that would be utilized at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of a comparable maturity to the remaining term of such bonds.

“Comparable Treasury Price” means, with respect to any redemption date, (A) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (B) if the Quotation Agent obtains fewer than four of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations as determined by the Company.

“Quotation Agent” means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by the Company.

“Reference Treasury Dealer” means each of (i) BNP Paribas Securities Corp., BofA Securities, Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, and (ii) a Primary Treasury Dealer (as defined below) selected by each of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Truist Securities, Inc.; or, in each case, their respective affiliates or successors, each of which is a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in the United States (a “Primary Treasury Dealer”); provided, however, that if any of the foregoing or their affiliates or successors shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company shall substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer.

“Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations” means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Quotation Agent, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Quotation Agent by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

“Treasury Rate” means, with respect to any redemption date, the rate per annum equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity or interpolated maturity (on a day count basis) of the Comparable Treasury Issue, assuming a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date.

The bonds of this series are also subject to redemption for the Replacement Fund for bonds of this series provided for in the supplemental indenture dated as of April 1, 2021, providing for this series, or upon application of moneys arising from a taking of any of the mortgaged property by eminent domain or similar action, at any time or from time to time prior to maturity, at 100% of their principal amount, in each case together with accrued and unpaid interest to, but excluding, the date fixed for redemption.

Redemption is in every case to be effected at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, upon at least ten, but not more than sixty, days’ prior notice, given by mail as more fully provided in the Indenture.

If this bond or any portion hereof (\$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof) is called for redemption and payment is duly provided, this bond or such portion thereof shall cease to bear interest from and after the date fixed for such redemption.

This bond is transferable, as provided in the Indenture, by the registered owner hereof in person or by duly authorized attorney, at the office or agency of the Company in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York, upon surrender and cancellation of this bond, and thereupon a new bond of the same series and of like aggregate principal amount will be issued to the transferee in exchange herefor as provided in the Indenture; or the registered owner of this bond, at his option, may surrender the same for cancellation at said office or agency of the Company and receive in exchange herefor the same aggregate principal amount of bonds of the same series of authorized denominations; all subject to the terms of the Indenture but without payment of any charges other than a sum sufficient to reimburse the Company for any stamp taxes or other governmental charges incident thereto.

This bond is a company obligation only and no recourse whatsoever, either directly or through the Company or any trustee, receiver, assignee or any other person, shall be had for the payment of the principal of or premium, if any, or interest on this bond, or for the enforcement of any claim based hereon, or otherwise in respect hereof or of the Indenture, against any promoter, subscriber to the capital stock, incorporator, or any past, present or future stockholder, member, officer or director of the Company as such, or of any successor or predecessor corporation or entity, whether by virtue of any constitutional provision, statute or rule of law, or by the enforcement of any assessment, penalty, subscription or otherwise, any and all such liability of promoters, subscribers, incorporators, stockholders, members, officers and directors being waived and released by each successive holder hereof by the acceptance of this bond, and as a part of the consideration for the issue hereof, and being likewise waived and released by the terms of the Indenture.

[END OF BOND FORM]

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B-6

## ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations, when used in the inscription on the face of this instrument, shall be construed as though they were written out in full according to applicable laws or regulations:

TEN COM — as tenants in common	UNIF GIFT MIN ACT -	_____ Custodian _____ (Cust)	(Minor)
TEN ENT — as tenants by the entireties			
JT TEN — as joint tenants with rights of survivorship and not as tenants in common		under Uniform Gifts to Minors Act _____	(State)

Additional abbreviations may also be used though not on the above list.

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sell(s) and transfer(s) unto (please insert Social Security or other identifying number of assignee)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPEWRITE NAME AND ADDRESS, INCLUDING POSTAL ZIP CODE OF ASSIGNEE

the within bond and all rights thereunder, hereby irrevocably constituting and appointing agent to transfer said bond on the books of the Company, with full power of substitution in the premises.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE: The signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as written upon the face of the within instrument in every particular without alteration or enlargement, or any change whatever.

Signature  
Guarantee: \_\_\_\_\_

B-7

## SIGNATURE GUARANTEE

Signatures must be guaranteed by an “eligible guarantor institution” meeting the requirements of the Trustee, which requirements include membership or participation in the Security Transfer Agent Medallion Program (“STAMP”) or such other “signature guarantee program” as may be determined by the Trustee in addition to, or in substitution for, STAMP, all in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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B-8